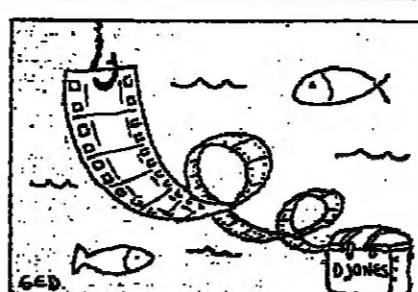



LADIES OF THE RING

Should women be Morris dancers?

Life & Times, page 5


REELING THEM IN

Lost treasures of the film world

Life & Times, page 1


LET'S MAKE AN OPERA

Sweet inspiration of the Channel tunnel

Life & Times, page 3

Major left stony-faced at conference as party divisions over Europe are laid bare

Tebbit savages Maastricht to Tory ovation

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Conservative party was embroiled in open warfare last night after a passionate and theatrical intervention from Lord Tebbit in which he denounced the government's European policy and embarrassed the prime minister.

Tory leaders were striving to hold the party together after an astonishing day at their Brighton conference had seen its divisions over Maastricht laid bare by Lord Tebbit's warning that the government was in "desperate trouble".

Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, told the party that it could break itself apart over Europe after a noisy and bitter debate in the conference hall, and a string of attacks on Maastricht on the fringe. The

government's troubles piled up as Kenneth Baker, the former home secretary, put himself at the head of the Commons revolt over Maastricht. Mr Baker, who left the cabinet only six months ago, is now expected to vote against the treaty ratification bill when it returns to the Commons, probably just before Christmas.

Although the government was able to claim backing for its Maastricht strategy from a largely meaningless vote at the conference, it was obvious that a good third of the representatives supported the anti-Maastricht, anti-ERM line personalised by Lord Tebbit.

The former party chairman, who had tried unsuccessfully to table an amendment calling for the abandonment of economic and monetary union, was cheered loudly as he went to the rostrum for a speech that severely embarrassed Mr Major and his watching colleagues.

The prime minister looked on stony-faced as Lord Tebbit offered him what appeared to be only qualified support. He said he would pledge his support to him "whatever and wherever you pursue policies to restore our economy, to preserve the rights of these islands and manage our own affairs for ourselves in our own interest".

His most wounding jibe came when he referred to efforts by newspapers to bring down the Chancellor Norman Lamont. Turning to him, he said: "I hope, prime minister, you will stand by your Chancellor. After all, it was not Norman Lamont's decision to enter the ERM." Mr Major took Britain into the ERM when he was Chancellor.

Party managers had expected the debate to show up the party's differences, but they were taken aback by the rapturous reception for Lord Tebbit, and the way he milked their acclaim by striding on to the conference floor, arms aloft, like a conquering hero with some of the audience chanting "Norman, Norman". He discomfited the leadership by disclosing that a cabinet minister — it turned out to be Kenneth Clarke, home secretary — had confessed on television that he had not read the treaty. He

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Ross Perot's re-entry into the American presidential race has hardly dented Bill Clinton's lead over President Bush. Page 11

Elliott dies
The character actor Denholm Elliott has died from an Aids-related illness at his home in Ibiza. He was 70. Page 3

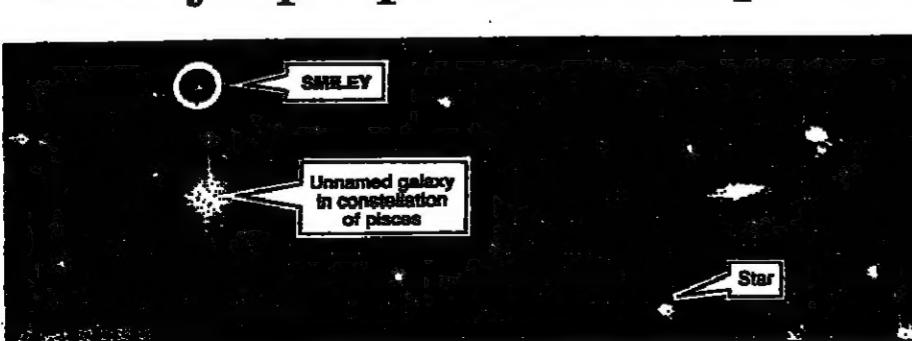
Clinton leads
Ross Perot's re-entry into the American presidential race has hardly dented Bill Clinton's lead over President Bush. Page 11

Ritz threat
The Ritz Hotel, symbol of luxury in London's West End, may soon be sold by Trafalgar House, which once turned down an offer of £130 million but is now fighting for its independence. Page 17

Leeds date
Leeds United are to play the third leg of their European Cup tie against VfB Stuttgart in Barcelona on Friday. Page 32

'Spy in the sky' detected beyond Pluto

Smiley's people find new planet



ASTRONOMERS have taken the first picture, above, of a new planet lying at the very edge of the solar system.

Reddish in colour and 125 miles across, the new planet may be named Smiley, after George Smiley, hero of the John le Carré spy novels. The two discoverers, David Jewitt and Jane Luu of the University of Hawaii, are le Carré fans and were discussing the character of the elusive Smiley at the telescope when they made the discovery.

Since their first observa-

tions at the end of August, the tiny planet has been photographed by astronomers at the European Southern Observatory in La Silla, Chile. They had to wait until after the full Moon in mid-September to produce images of Smiley — officially known as 1992 QB1 — because it is so dim and distant that it cannot be seen when the Moon is full.

The pictures, taken on September 27 and 28, confirm what had been suspected: that QB1 is in orbit around the Sun at a distance of 3,700 million miles. This puts it just outside the orbit of the most distant planet, Pluto, and

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means that it takes 262 years to make a complete orbit round the Sun.

Since Pluto was discovered in 1930, no more distant object orbiting the Sun has been found, so astronomers regard QB1 as very important. Because it is so small they do not believe that it is the long-sought tenth planet which some astronomers consider necessary to explain the precise movements of the other nine. The chances are that it is the first member of a new asteroid belt originally

Continued on page 16, col 5

Serbs curb air force

BY MICHAEL BINION, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AFTER lengthy negotiations in Geneva, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs announced yesterday that his forces would suspend all military flights over Bosnia, a gesture he hoped would make the proposed United Nations air embargo unnecessary.

Radovan Karadzic said after talks with Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, the European Community and UN peace negotiators, that the Serbian side accepted a ban on military flights as a temporary measure. He insisted, however, on the condition "that the other side does not use this to undertake offensive action".

The Foreign Office yesterday welcomed the announcement as an important step which Britain, as hosts of the

Yugoslav peace conference, and the Geneva negotiators had been urging on the Serbs for some time.

"Taken in conjunction with what is happening in New York, this puts another piece of the jigsaw in place," a spokesman said. The security council is now preparing a resolution to propose monitoring of a no-fly zone in Bosnia by UN forces in the area.

Mr Karadzic threatened on Sunday to withdraw from the Geneva talks if the UN air embargo went ahead. He has denied that his forces have used air power against civilians and said planes were deployed only occasionally to support infantry.

Agencies stretched, page 7

Checks start on jumbo jet bolts

 BY HARVEY ELLIOTT
AND LIN JENKINS
IN AMSTERDAM

AIRLINES around the world yesterday began examining engine mounting bolts fitted to more than 500 Boeing 747 jumbo jets and which may yield a clue to the cause of the Amsterdam air disaster.

The two three-inch hollow "shear pins" fixing each engine to the main wing spar which are being inspected are designed to break under an impact of around seven tons. Their design should allow the engine to break free from the wing as an aircraft lands with its wheels up or ditches in the sea but strong enough to support the engines during even the most severe mid-air turbulence.

Investigators trying to find out what happened in the El Al crash will want to know whether the bolts had become cracked and had then snapped in mid-air. The number who died when the plane hit an apartment block was yesterday revised down to around 200 after 88 survivors reported to the authorities.

Boeing had advised airlines which operate the 747-100, 200 and 300 series that they should inspect the bolts several weeks ago in case they were found to have failed on the identical China Airlines 747 freighter which crashed in Taiwan last December.

Still they have no evidence to show that they did somehow shear, but the fact that the same two engines broke away from the aircraft which crashed at Amsterdam provides circumstantial evidence that they may be somehow involved and that Boeing maintenance advice has been made mandatory.

The enormous strains put on the bolts — and four other full strength mounting pins — can occasionally cause cracks to appear and they must be

Continued on page 16, col 1

'Too heavy' theory, page 2

Airline of the Year 1992.

In addition to winning the Airline of the Year award for the second year running, we were also voted Best Transatlantic Airline, Best Business Class, Best Long-Haul Airline, Best Inflight Entertainment, Best Airline Ground and Check-in Staff, and Best Food by the readers of Executive Travel Magazine.

For full details of our award-winning flights phone us on 0345 747 747 or see your travel agent.



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Investigators in Amsterdam search for engine bolts to find out what went wrong

Plane's heavy payload may have caused crash into flats

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

ACCIDENT investigators are examining whether the Boeing 747 which crashed into a block of Amsterdam flats on Sunday night killing more than 200 people was too heavy to stay in the air once two of its engines had failed. While faults in key engine mounting bolts are thought to be a possible cause, the load may have played a part in the disaster.

Still close to its maximum take-off weight of 351 tons at a height of 5,000ft, the pilot may well have been unable to maintain straight and level flight making the accident inevitable.

The investigators are, however, still faced with a complex riddle of conflicting evidence — and often no evidence at all — as they try to piece together just how it happened. Some pilots even claim that the aircraft should have been able to pull away even though it was more likely to sink slowly downwards, while others insist the crash could not have been avoided.

With little of the aircraft remaining and so far no sign of the flight recorders, the investigation is likely to centre on a minute inspection of the two engines that have been recovered from a lake and the paperwork showing the exact amount of freight and fuel loaded by the crew. The bolts have yet to be recovered.

If the bolts, or any part of them, still remain they may at least go some way towards proving whether a single engine or indeed both engines broke from the wing and so set up a chain of events which led to disaster.

Had they failed as Captain Isaac Fuchs accelerated his jet cargo aircraft away from Amsterdam at the start of its four-and-a-half-hour flight to Israel, the effect could have been catastrophic, although with instruments designed to tell him whether an engine was on fire but none to tell him whether it had dropped off the wing, Captain Fuchs would probably not have realised what had happened.

The inner starboard engine, which he told ground controllers failed first, may have

flipped upwards and backwards over the wing as it was supposed to do or it may have been forced by the gyroscopic effect of its whirling fanblades to the right to smash into the outer starboard engine, causing that to break away too. The chances of the same bolts breaking at the same time in two engines are extremely unlikely.

The investigators also know that he later had problems with his flaps, suggesting that whatever damage the engine had caused, either as it broke up or tore itself free, affected the hydraulic system perhaps causing the leading edge flaps to deploy on one wing and not on the other, so exacerbating his problems.

Whether or not the engines broke free from the wing first, or as a result of a fire, does not necessarily mean that the aircraft was doomed.

The aircraft's weight was just as significant.

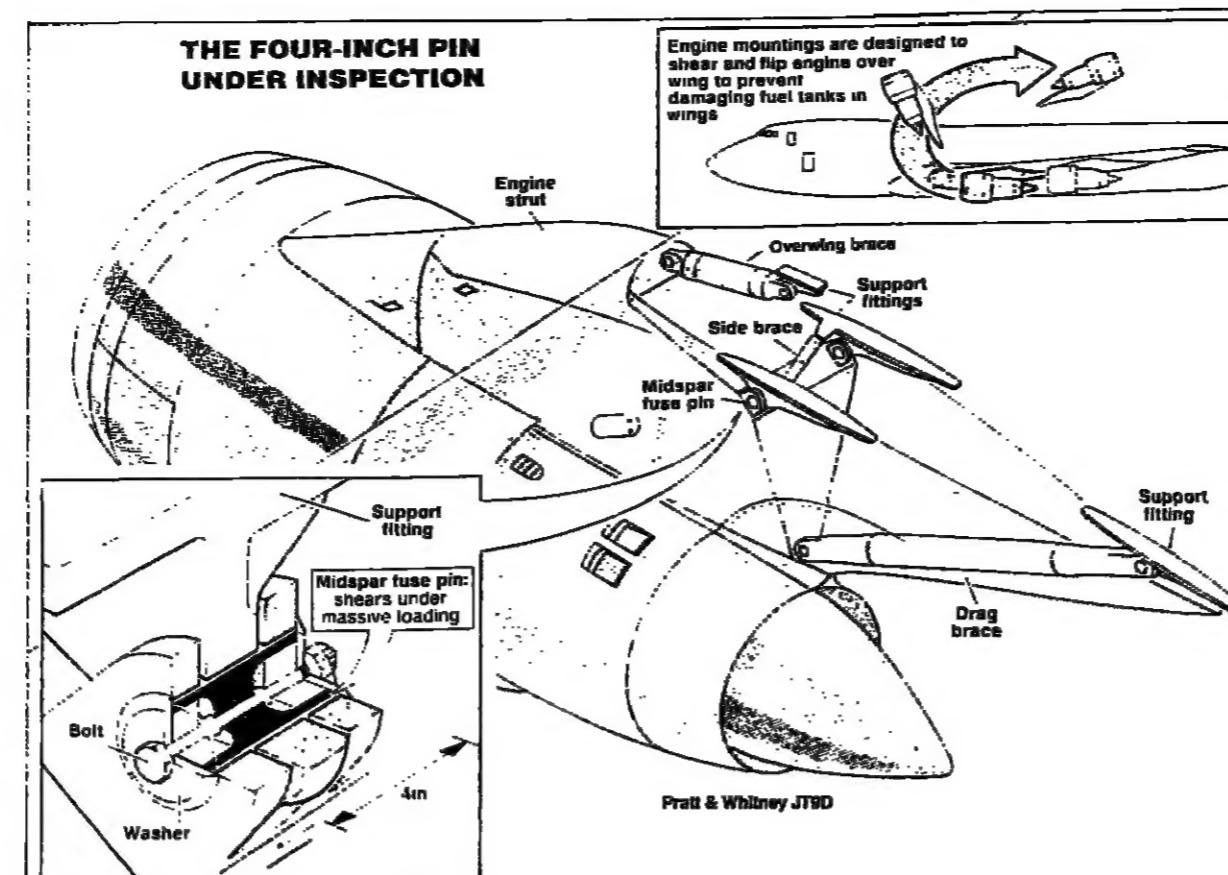
A Boeing 747-200F has a maximum take off weight of 351 tons. Any heavier and it cannot leave the runway. The aircraft weighed around 175 tons empty and the freight is believed to have weighed 114 tons. Captain Fuchs could not, therefore, have taken on board more than 62 tons of fuel at Amsterdam — sufficient to take him to Tel Aviv burning fuel at the rate of around ten tons an hour and on to any diversion airport together with five per cent for emergencies.

Equally a 747-200 cannot maintain its straight and level flight on two engines if it weighs more than 280 tons. Any heavier and it drifts slowly downwards.

Take off and climb to 5,000 feet would have used up around five tons of fuel and a few more tons would either have been lost through severed fuel pipes or dumped by the flight engineer.

The two engines each weigh almost eight tons and as they fell from the aircraft so the weight would have come down further. It would still, however, have been above the critical level.

Pilots have to undergo regular checks in simulators to ensure that they are capable of



Piecing the evidence together: one of the engines

handling a vast array of problems which rarely, if ever occur in flight. Every six months they must be checked out on their ability to take off and land on three engines, an almost routine procedure.

About every two years instructors will suddenly "throw in" a second engine failure, sometimes at the worst possible moment as the aircraft is at a safe height.

as low as 500ft from simulated touchdown. This is where the workload becomes, for some, too much. Not only must they instantly calculate their weight, but they must instantly deploy just the right amount of flap, kill the fire and carry out a mind-numbing variety of checks as well as control the aircraft as it powers away to a safe height.

Toll cut as 88 missing residents are traced

By LIN JENKINS

THE estimated death toll in the Amsterdam air crash was revised downwards closer to 200 yesterday after 88 people believed to be missing were traced.

Across the country an official period of mourning began with Ruud Lubbers, the Dutch prime minister, leading a minute's silence in parliament. Flags flew at half mast, aircraft were ordered not to fly over the crash site and television stations agreed not to broadcast airline advertising for the time being. In Amsterdam, the annual lunar fair due to run from October 8-18 was cancelled.

As firemen recovered more bodies, the authorities suggested that the true death figure would never be known.

Some bodies would have been reduced to ashes by the intensity of the blaze as a ruptured gas main fuelled the burning aviation fuel. Many victims were illegal immigrants living with friends and relatives and it is unclear whether their relatives have risked reporting them as missing.

By yesterday evening 14 bodies had been removed from the pile of tangled metal and rubble. Ed van Thijn, mayor of Amsterdam, said to the local primary school to help children begin coping with the loss of friends. Others went to the sports centre to talk to survivors.

Holiday health alert

Travel agents were yesterday urged to highlight the dangers of holidays off the beaten track after a man died from a virulent strain of malaria picked up during an African tour. A Sheffield inquest on John Guy, 60, an accountant, was told that in spite of taking a course of anti-malaria drugs he had succumbed to a strain of the illness which has symptoms that make it difficult to diagnose. Last year 11 people died in Britain from the strain, falciparum malaria. Mr Guy died six weeks after returning from a two-week stay in Kenya that included a three-day up-country safari. His GP at first believed he had a chest infection. The coroner recorded a verdict of death from natural causes.

Siege gunman shot

Police marksman shot and injured a man last night after a three-hour siege at the home of his estranged wife at Heathfield, East Sussex. Police sent a dog to tackle the man when he emerged carrying a sawn-off shotgun in each hand. He fired a shot as the dog raced towards him and moments later was hit himself by one of several marksman who had surrounded the house. The siege began after the gunman took his estranged wife and a man hostage. The woman was later released and was taken into police custody while the siege continued, with shots being fired. The male hostage was said to have been hurt, but not seriously. The gunman was later taken to hospital at Eastbourne.

Prisoner pulls knife

Police and the Home Office yesterday began investigating how a top-security prisoner smuggled ammonia into a police van in an escape attempt that injured nine. Police and Home Office sources identified the man as Anthony Borden, 28, a high-security inmate at Belmarsh prison, south-east London, since he was captured after an escape in April from a prison van. Yesterday, Borden, of no fixed address, arrived at Wallington magistrates' court, southwest London, by police van. Although handcuffed to a prison officer, he produced a home-made knife, and seven police and two prison officers were squirmed with ammonia before he was restrained. He was remanded in custody to October 19.

Jackson's voice cleared

The world's most valuable vocal cords flew out of Britain on Concorde yesterday after being pronounced free of serious damage by a throat specialist. Michael Jackson, right, is reported to have consulted David Garfield Davies, director of the voice clinic at the Middlesex Hospital, over fears of nodules developing on his vocal cords. Mr Garfield Davies would not confirm he had seen the singer but said: "I shouldn't think he's got anything seriously wrong."



£1m paid for Pitchford

Pitchford Hall, Shropshire, has been sold for an estimated £1 million. The agents, Knight Frank & Rutley and Balfour & Cook, did not reveal the name of the overseas buyer, who will use it as a family home. The buyer is understood to be prepared to continue restoring what is regarded as one of the finest half-timbered frame houses in England.

Without government action the present trickle of historic houses coming on to the market could become an unsustainable flood. Angus Stirling, director of the National Trust, said yesterday. He said it was a tragedy that the contents of Pitchford Hall, accumulated over centuries, had been separated from the house.

Tunnel worker killed

A Channel tunnel worker was killed yesterday after being hit by a work train in the service tunnel. The man, who has not been named, is the eighth worker to be killed at the British end of the tunnel project. TML, the contractors for Eurotunnel, said that the Health and Safety Executive had been informed and an investigation was under way. A spokesman said that no further details would be released until the man's next of kin had been informed.

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Two killed in executive jet crash

By NICHOLAS WATT

THE pilot and co-pilot of an executive jet were killed yesterday when their plane crashed and burst into flames after taking off from Prestwick Airport, Strathclyde. The British Aerospace Jetstream flipped over and crashed into the runway. There was nobody else on board.

The 18-seat jet was believed to have been on a test or development flight to East Midlands Airport. It is made at a plant near Prestwick airport, which is used for training because it is quiet and rarely foggy.

David Learmount of Flight International magazine, said the Jetstream, one of BAe's most successful export earners, had an excellent safety record. It has attracted steady orders from overseas, particularly from regional airlines in America where it is used as a commuter aircraft.

The Jetstream, which first flew in 1967, is a scaled-down airliner aimed at the executive market. When BAe announced redundancies last month its Prestwick factory was one of the few to be spared.

Low sales deepen car industry gloom

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

SALES of new cars fell by four per cent last month, putting the motor industry on course for its worst annual performance in ten years.

The decline reversed any hopes that the industry was showing signs that it could recover from a recession that has cost an estimated £6.5 billion in lost sales over the past three years. Instead, companies are revising their forecasts, predicting that sales of new cars could fall to 1.55 million, the lowest total since 1982 and 750,000 less than sales compared with the record year of 1989.

Figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders were seized on by union leaders as confirmation that manufacturing industry is struggling to survive the recession. Jimmy Airlie, national official with the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, said: "The motor industry is the engine of the economy. It has been spluttering for some time but it now appears to have stalled."

The gloom also deepened among manufacturers at the Paris Motor Show hoping that launching new models could put some gloss on the year in spite of the short-time working and redundancies that have been forced on the industry recently. Forecasts suggest that European markets would continue to fall to add to the slump at home.

The fall in September means that sales so far in 1992 are down to 1.297,423, 2.62 per cent below the January to September total for 1991 that was claimed by manufacturers to be the worst slump for 50 years.

Ford, which has 10,000 workers at its two main plants at Dagenham, Essex, and Halewood, Merseyside, on short-time working, saw its market share dropping from 29.36 per cent in September, 1991, to 21.63 per cent.

Girl tied to railings at school

By JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

COUNCIL officials found a girl tied to playground railings and teachers indifferent to the spectacle when they carried out a routine inspection at Colville School in Notting Hill Gate, west London.

The head teacher, Martin Brown, resigned shortly before a report on the incident reached Kensington and Chelsea council's education and libraries committee.

The inspectors cited the playground incident as an example of continuing disciplinary problems at the primary school. They had been critical of pupils' behaviour and punctuality after an initial visit in November 1991.

Their second report, submitted last month, was a devastating critique of Mr Brown's stewardship. A disciplinary code drawn up by staff had not been implemented systematically, it said. Some lessons lacked professional teaching and care, and 64 of the 272 pupils were late on one day when the school had been urged to improve punctuality.

Mr Brown was accused by the inspectors of failing to solve problems analytically, or anticipating the likely outcomes of a course of action. For example, new playground equipment made it easy for the children to climb over the playground fence.

An acting head is now in charge while a successor to Mr Brown is being sought.

Bart's chief quits

By JEREMY LAURANCE

THE manager of one of London's leading teaching hospitals has resigned less than a fortnight before a report is due to go to ministers naming his hospital — St Bartholomew's — as one of four facing closure under the NHS internal market.

Ken Grant, who has been manager of St Bartholomew's for ten years, is the first victim of the Tomlinson enquiry into the future of London's health service.

The enquiry report, due to go to the health secretary, Virginia Bottomley, next week, is expected to say that four London teaching hospitals, including Bart's, cannot survive in their present form, with the loss of thousands of jobs.

The resignation of Mr Grant at a critical moment for his hospital will seriously weaken its capacity to resist closure. Publication of the Tomlinson report, expected at the end of the month, will be followed by two months of consultation during which the named hospitals will fight to secure their futures while ministers decide what to do.

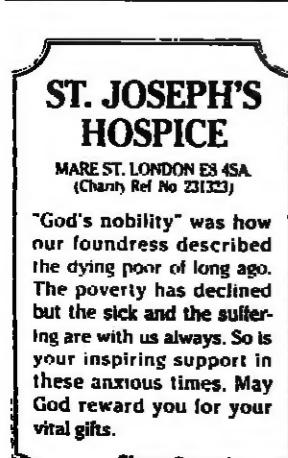
An outspoken manager, with a reputation as a maverick, Mr Grant has refused to toe the management line and caused resentment in North East Thames health region with his entrepreneurial activities. A vigorous supporter of the NHS reforms that have brought his departure, he once spoke of his vision of a Bart's group of hospitals operating throughout the country advertised with the slogan "Bart's — British and best".

Colleagues were taken by surprise by Mr Grant's decision, but said that he had often spoken of resigning. "Anyone in that position must be depressed at having to hold the reins ever more tightly as time goes on," said one. After trying for ten years to maintain services to the local population, the prospect of Tomlinson putting a gun to his head was the final straw, the colleague said.

In a radio interview yesterday

Correction

Mr Tom Hardie-Forsyth was incorrectly described as a Foreign Office military liaison officer in a report of a court case in which he gave evidence (October 3). He is no longer in the army, and is UK coordinator, Kurdistan Reconstruction Organisation.



"God's nobility" was how our founders described the dying poor of long ago. The poverty has declined but the sick and the suffering are with us always. So is your inspiring support in these anxious times. May God reward you for your vital gifts.

Sister Superior.



Arlie: "Engine of the economy has stalled"

Dog warden tells court how he survived IRA ambush

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A LOCAL council worker told a Dublin court yesterday of his fierce gun battle with an IRA unit in which he killed one of the four men who had set an ambush for him at a remote border farm.

The man, a part-time soldier in the Royal Irish Regiment, explained how he managed to drive the three surviving men off, despite having been shot eight times in his legs.

William Glass, a dog warden with Fermanagh District Council who has served as a part-time corporal with the Royal Irish Regiment (formerly the Ulster Defence Regiment) since 1970, told the Special Criminal Court in Dublin that he had gone to a farm at Sciarlans Upper near Belleek in Co. Fermanagh on February 5 this year, after receiving a call about a dog.

Mr Glass told the court that before travelling to the farm, which is only 1½ miles from the border with Donegal, he took the precaution of collecting his personal protection weapon, a Walther P5 pistol, from his home.

He said he kept the gun cocked under his coat on the front seat of his van.

As he arrived at the farm a man wearing a balaclava and a military jacket rushed towards the passenger door shouting: "IRA, get out of the van."

"I immediately picked up my pistol," Mr Glass told Kevin Haugh, SC, for the prosecution. "As I picked it up he must have seen me going for the pistol, for a shot came from him. His shot came in through the passenger window and through the windscreen in front of me. I immediately returned fire."

The court had earlier been told that Mr Glass fired at least three times, hitting the IRA man in the chest and killing him.

At this point a second gunman tried to open the driver's door. Mr Glass managed to push the door open himself, forcing his assailant to retreat; firing a shot as he did so. Again the soldier fired back.

Mr Glass then spotted a third gunman at the gable end

Murder case police may be charged

By STEWART TENDER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

ELEVEN South Wales police officers may face criminal charges after investigations into police misconduct and the case of two brothers freed earlier this year by the Court of Appeal after being convicted for killing the manageress of a Swansea sex shop.

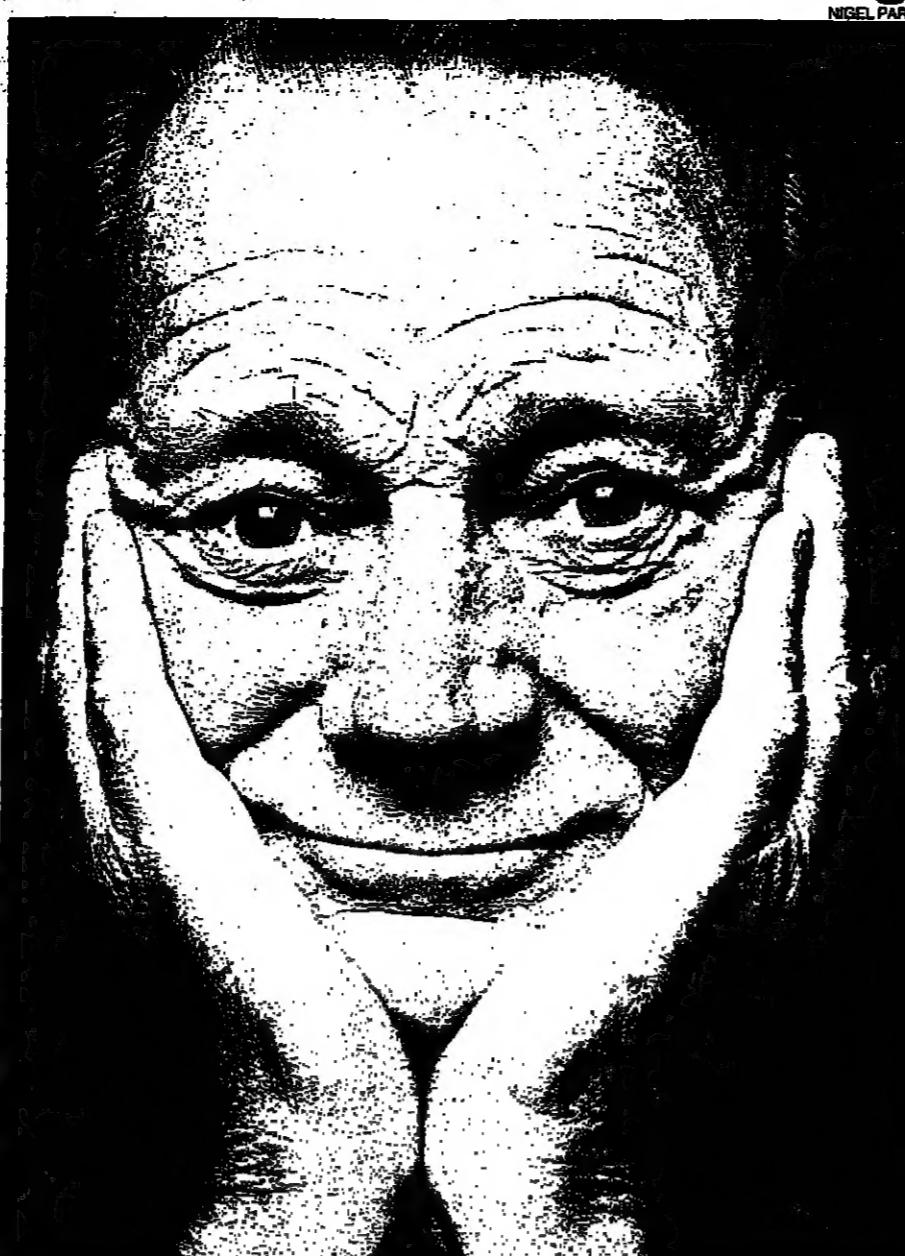
Seven officers are suspended and another four are thought to be retired. Yesterday a spokesman for the Crown Prosecution Service said the last of ten files had been received from Robert Lawrence, the force's chief constable. Barbara Mills QC, the director of public prosecutions, and her staff will decide on any prosecutions in the next few months.

The files were drawn up by detectives from Devon and Cornwall police called in to carry out two investigations. In one, they re-examined the case of Wayne and Paul Darvell, who were given life sentences for the murder of Sandra Phillips. The team later also began investigating allegations involving police notebooks and diaries which included officers from both South Wales police and Dyfed Powys. Investigations led to the Darvell case being sent back to the Court of Appeal.

During the appeal, the court was told by counsel for the brothers that police evidence had been thoroughly dishonest and built on fraudulently created papers. Notes had not been made contemporaneously, a confession had been refined and rephrased and a notebook supposedly used by one of the officers in June 1985 was not issued until two months later.

At the hearing, which included an admission from counsel for the DPP that the convictions were no longer safe, the judges were also told that two constables who said they had seen the brothers near the sex shop on the day of the murder were found to be nine miles away at the time. There was also a suspicion that someone may have planted an earring similar to those worn by the dead woman in a

Scene-stealer of the stage and screen dies aged 70



Thoroughly lived-in and profoundly sympathetic: the changing face of Denholm Elliott: top right, with Ann Todd and Nigel Patrick in *The Sound Barrier*; middle, playing the butler to Eddie Murphy in *Trading Places*; as the working-class intellectual Mr Emerson alongside Richard E. Grant in *Room with a View*

By BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DENHOLM Elliott, who died yesterday, had one of the most distinctive personalities in British acting. His round, flummoxed face seemed to radiate vulnerability. Even when ironed, his clothes somehow managed to look rumpled. His very hair, straggling and distract, signalled helplessness. If a director wanted to cast someone as a dog-eared con-man or a shabby-genteel poet, Denholm Elliott would have been his first and best choice.

He was born in London in 1922, studied at Rada, served

in Bomber Command and was a prisoner-of-war in Germany for three years. His early parts on both stage and screen gave little clue of the consummate character actor he was to become. In both *The Sound Barrier* and *The Cruel Sea* he was the quintessential member of the officer class: straight, nice and perhaps a bit dull.

In the 1960s and 1970s the opportunities open to him became more interesting: his range widened and his work deepened. On stage he played Trigorin in *The Seagull*, Vershinin in *The Three Sisters* and the title-roles in

productions of Strindberg's *The Father* and the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *The Return of A.J. Raffles*. He even turned up in John Mortimer's *Heaven and Hell* as the Devil disguised as an ex-RAF padre.

In recent years, though, Elliott abandoned the theatre for the cinema and television, appearing in movies as different as *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Trading Places* (where he was an English butler in the Wilford Hyde-White tradition), and Merchant-Ivory's adaptations of E.M. Forster's novels. In *Maurice*, he was

the bluff family doctor who refused to believe in the hero's homosexuality, and in *A Room with a View* the genial working-class intellectual, Mr Emerson. He had the skill and professionalism to embody disagreeable people, as witness the cynical, snobbish doctor he played in the film *A Private Function*: but more often his wry good humour and lack of pretension made themselves felt.

He was most at home with characters like the political journalist in *Defence of the Realm*: seedy, boozey, thoroughly lived-in, and profoundly sympathetic. Moreover, no actor could have matched his performance. When it came to blinding warmth and dilapidation, Denholm Elliott was unique.

Tributes poured in for Elliott yesterday. The actress Virginia McKenna said: "I feel very, very sad for him and his family and particularly his lovely wife. I had no idea he had AIDS. The person I am thinking of more than anyone is his wife. It must be terrible for her and their two children."

Glenola Jackson described him as "a wonderful actor and wonderfully wicked to work with — with his anarchic sense of humour".

Diary, page 12



Police on alert after woman goes missing

FEARS were growing yesterday for a woman who disappeared after meeting her estranged husband.

Police said a male friend of Rachel Still, 23, heard her husband threaten her during an early morning telephone call. She had been living with the friend at Wimslow, Cheshire, since her marriage broke up three weeks ago. She

agreed to meet her husband Philip, 28, in Chester on Saturday and phoned her friend that night to say they were talking and she was safe and well.

Police said yesterday a second call was made to the friend at 1.30am on Sunday and he spoke to Rachel and her husband. Nothing has been heard of the couple since.

Call for holiday advice after US killing

By PETER VICTOR

THE fiancée of the murdered British tourist Keith Thompson arrived back in Britain from Florida yesterday as criticism was levelled at the failure to warn holidaymakers of the dangers they can face abroad.

Anne Sole, who saw muggers kill Mr Thompson in a hotel car park, flew home on a Virgin flight from Orlando. In a statement to the US police she had said that Mr Thompson, 42, a postman from Chelmsford, Essex, was shot after they demanded his wallet and he replied: "No way."

The Consumers' Association said yesterday that travellers needed more personal, street-level advice. "No one is providing that and the people on the spot could be doing so," a spokesman said.

The Foreign Office said it had no specific advice to offer travellers to America. A spokesman said the killing was an isolated incident. "It's not something you can plan for. We would advise people to live to fight another day."

The Association of British Travel Agents circulates Foreign Office warnings to its members. "Our advice from the Foreign Office is that the US is not an unsafe place to travel," a spokesman said.

In cases where people were on fly-drive holidays, like Mr

Thompson, they tended not to be in contact with holiday company representatives. "We advise people when picking up cars to ask 'the rep' which places to this murder the night before

we left. I will never go back," she said.

An autopsy has been completed on Mr Thompson's body and it will be flown home in a few days.

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Payment wrangle deprives children of therapy

By ALISON ROBERTS

THIRTY physically handicapped children are being denied therapy at their special school in south-west London because of a dispute over who should pay the bill and how it should be paid.

The children, many of whom are blind, have a legal entitlement to speech therapy and physiotherapy, but have not received treatment for as much as two years because of a bureaucratic wrangle between the local health authority and the local education authority in Wandsworth. Both authorities say that they cannot afford to pay for the therapy by themselves.

Tony Hudson, headmaster of the school, Linden Lodge, at Putney, said that its governors had made repeated pleas for therapy to be provided.

"Each day without therapy means the children's education is that much retarded," he said.

Paul Ennals, director of education at the Royal National Institute for the Blind, said that since introduction of local financial management, such situations had been occurring across the country and many children were missing out on therapy.

The 30 pupils, who come from throughout southeast England, have been given "statements" of special educational needs by the local education authority (LEA) responsible for their home area. The LEAs have a legal duty to provide the specialist treatment contained in the "statement". However, speech therapy and physiotherapy are classed as non-educational needs.

Wandsworth LEA, which funds Linden Lodge and claws back money

from LEAs covering the children's home addresses, argues that the health authority should be held responsible for the "health" therapies. Richmond, Twickenham and Roehampton health authority, which covers Linden Lodge, says that it cannot afford it. A spokesman complained that Wandsworth LEA had not put meetings to resolve the problem "at the top of their agenda".

Mr Ennals said: "The solution is for the LEA to pay for the services needed and then to invoice the sponsoring authorities. But the system creates a bureaucratic nightmare. It is a scandal that children are not getting the therapy they need and it is one that the government should look at during the course of current legislation."

The inaction has angered those with children at Linden Lodge, such

as Maggie Carpenter, whose daughter, Rosa, 11, has partial paralysis and only partial sight, and needs constant physiotherapy to straighten her foot. Unless it is provided to help Rosa get over recent surgery, another operation will be needed.

Mrs Carpenter said: "She has had 21 staples put in from her ankle to her heel and in other bones in her foot and if she does not get physiotherapy it will cause her a lot of trouble. We can stay in Brent, where we live, and get physiotherapy, but then she misses out on education at the school."

The parents feel as though they are being bounced from one authority to another, Mrs Carpenter said.

Mr Hudson said that some pupils were due to leave the school soon without having had necessary treatment.

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Caught in the crossfire: John Major appears to offer up a silent prayer for unity as Kenneth Baker, left, put himself at the head of the Conservative Euro-sceptics, while Douglas Hurd, right, tried to calm conference tempers

Noisy debate underlines deep party divisions on Maastricht

Tebbit cheered as he scolds Major

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

EUROPE

LORD Tebbit hijacked the Conservative conference yesterday with a speech in which he blamed John Major for entering the exchange-rate mechanism and told him to stand by Norman Lamont, his embattled Chancellor.

Lord Tebbit called on the prime minister to negotiate a new Maastricht treaty that had no mention of economic and monetary union or extra power for Brussels.

His name was cheered when it was announced that he was to be called to the rostrum and representatives stood to applaud as he walked forward. When he had finished speaking he walked into the body of the hall, waving his arms to prolonged cheering.

Throughout a speech in which he had declared that the government was in desperate trouble, a grim-faced Lord Tebbit offered only qualified support for the prime minister, a man he once regarded as his protégé.

The days when Lord Tebbit was a regular caller at 10 Downing Street, offering succour and advice and keeping open Mr Major's lines to the right of the party, are long gone. Europe has put paid to all that and Lord Tebbit believes that the prime minister has betrayed the people who put him in power. But that cannot account fully for the sheer venom behind Lord Tebbit's theatrical repudiation of the prime minister.

The former cabinet minister has never been slow to take offence and Mr Major made a grave mistake with what was intended as a light-hearted put-down in the Commons debate on the pound's exit from the ERM. The joke about Norman "biting your ankles even when he is not walking up your pathway" backfired spectacularly yesterday, as the man described by Michael Foot as a "semi-house-trained polecat" beat a path to the rostrum.

After congratulating Mr Major on his election victory, he said he would support him "whenever and wherever you pursue policies to restore our economy, preserve our rights in these isles to manage our affairs for ourselves, in our interests". Lord Tebbit said that the last time he spoke at conference was after "an equally magnificent victory won by Margaret Thatcher".

Alluding to his wife Margaret, paralysed in the Brighton bombing in 1984, he said: "In 1987 I believed that my work in politics was done and for reasons which you will understand, I could decently retire to care for my family. I intended

never to speak at conference again. But speak today I must. The government is in desperate trouble."

With a stony-faced Mr Major looking on, Lord Tebbit said that staunch Tory newspapers were calling for the resignation of Mr Lamont, to follow that of David Mellor as finance secretary.

The bolter of the black carriage crows of politics have feasted on the political corpse of one minister, and they are looking for a bigger meal.

They want to bring down the Chancellor and thereby to undermine the prime minister himself. These are difficult days, when *The Daily Telegraph* writes in that vein.

Lord Tebbit turned dramatically to Mr Major and said: "I hope you will stand by your Chancellor — it was not Norman Lamont's decision to enter the ERM. He did his best to make the unworkable work. The cost in lost jobs, bankrupt firms, repossessed homes, in the terrible wounds inflicted on industry, has been savage." Sarcastically he added: "But we have established our credentials as good Europeans. Now out of the deutschmark straitjacket, we can pursue policies which are, in the Chancellor's own

words, in our national interest. Not before time!" Lord Tebbit declared, to loud cheers. Since Maastricht "a great tide of opinion has begun to flow against the federalist, not just here but in Denmark and in France and in Germany, too".

Rousing the representatives to fever pitch, Lord Tebbit challenged them on whether they wanted to be citizens of a European union, to see a single currency and to have

other countries interfering in Britain's immigration controls. To each question they shouted: "No!"

Lord Tebbit said that Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand "no longer speak for Europe". He urged: "John Major can raise the flag of patriots of all the states of Europe. Let's launch the drive for Maastricht II — a treaty with no mention of more power for Brussels, no mention of economic, monetary and political union. It's a task in which I stand ready to join John Major whenever he is ready to begin!"

Representatives cheered for

more than a minute as Lord Tebbit stood among them on the conference floor. Ministers on the platform, including the prime minister, looked on expressionless as the representatives continued to applaud. Lord Tebbit eventually waved his hands to call for calm and took his seat.

Mr Major had dismissed his last eruption as "froth and bubble". Yesterday, the right's most dangerous volcano poured forth molten lava.

Lord Tebbit later denied that he had helped to turn the knife in his already beleaguered party. "Not at all. I have offered a hand of friendship," he said in an interview with BBC television news last night. Lord Tebbit branded the vote on the Maastricht treaty a "joke". He said that the job of the prime minister was to do what the people of his country wanted and not what leaders of other countries wanted.

Asked if he would rather see his party out of power than in a Maastricht Europe, Lord Tebbit said: "The party will stay in power so long as the economy is successful."



Clarke attempting to redress the balance

Clarke comes to defence of treaty

By SHEILA GUNN, RAY CLANCY AND NICHOLAS WOOD

AS THE conference fringe echoed to the sound of minister past and present settling old scores, Kenneth Clarke, who replaced Kenneth Baker as home secretary after the election, said that Margaret Thatcher and Nicholas Ridley were the only two who had fought against ERM entry.

Mr Baker told his fringe meeting that Britain was "well out of the ERM", condemned the government for the "lack of a coherent eco-

nomic policy" and called for an immediate 1 per cent cut in interest rates with a target of 6 per cent within months.

He said the pound should be floated indefinitely and that inflation should be kept in check by a combination of 1980s-style monetary targets and public spending cuts.

Mr Clarke said Mr Baker had "never expressed the slightest doubt about what he regarded as a successful negotiation". At a separate fringe meeting last night Mr Clarke tried to redress the balance by strongly defending the treaty as "the most Conservative step" by the Community in 20 years.

The 50,000 voters who led

to Denmark's rejection of Maastricht had wrongly believed that Maastricht would lead to greater centralisation.

At a luncheon fringe of the Selston Group, Lord Tebbit accused John Major's government of resorting to "the crudest form of bullying" against the Danes over the Maastricht treaty.

Steven Conway (Wyre Forest)

said that for 500 years or

more British men and women

had been fighting for sover-

eignty, democracy and free-

dom. Some had paid the

ultimate price. "Is their sacri-

fice to be wiped out at the

stroke of a pen?"

As representatives shouted:

"Give as a referendum," Mr

Hurd continued: "How could

the prime minister expect to

carry weight or conviction

thereafter?" To hissing and jeering he added: "We don't

want — and this, Norman

Tebbit, is a British interest —

Britain to be on the sidelines

when the security and prosper-

ity of Europe are being

decided."

The divisions among the

representatives were apparent

even before the debate opened,

when boos as well as

cheers greeted the appearance

of Sir Edward Heath, the former

prime minister, who took Brit-

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munity in 1973.

Nicholas Gibon (London South Inner Euro-constituency)

said that since 1979 the

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Town halls are told to curb spending

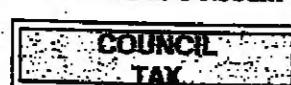
BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND ROBERT MORGAN

LOCAL authorities will have to tighten their belts next year, John Redwood, the local government minister, said yesterday in a further sign of the severity of the public spending round.

Brushing aside demands from the constituencies for more money to ease the introduction of the council tax, Mr Redwood urged councils to intensify their efforts to secure greater value for money.

Savings from contracting out services to the private sector could help to offset the spending squeeze, he said. Average council spending of £2,000 an adult left plenty of room for economies.

"Many of you in local



government have told me that your permitted spending levels are too low and the capping limits are unrealistic," he said. "Next year is not going to be easy financially."

"It's a year when the Conservative virtues of efficiency and better value for money will be much needed. I know you will support me in delivering them."

Rank and file unease about the replacement of the poll tax with the council tax in April surfaced repeatedly during the local government debate. Eric Ollerenshaw, of Hackney and

Stoke Newington, said that it was important not to repeat the mistakes made with the introduction of the community charge.

"We have to get local government finances right," he said. "We must not allow local authorities to cover massive increases in spending while this tax is introduced."

Elgar Jenkins, from Bath, said that the community charge had been unpopular because central government had provided insufficient money to keep bills at a reasonable level.

There had to be sufficient money this time so that people were not suddenly faced with huge upsurges in their personal taxation.

Mr Redwood said later that a scheme to protect people penalised by the switch from the poll tax to the property-based council tax would be an important feature of the new system. "There will be a debate about limiting the increase in bills in the year of introduction and probably beyond."

One of the biggest cheers of the debate went to Andrew Boff, leader of Hillingdon council in west London, who confessed to a personal liking for the poll tax.

Mr Boff reminded Conservative councillors that they had pressed for a local tax system that took into account ability to pay, was easy to collect and had the accountability of the community charge without the headaches.

The government had provided it, he said.

"You want this system to be sold to the electorate on the doorstep. You do it yourself," Mr Boff said.

Mr Redwood delighted representatives by promising them that the review of the structure of local government would lead to the restoration of historic county boundaries where that was the wish of local people.

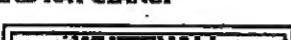
"Somerset, Herefordshire, Rutland, the Ridings of Yorkshire — if you want your past to become your future, say so and your wish can be granted."



Cut off: Robert Key, junior heritage minister, contemplates a once-glorious institution with an uncertain future ... Brighton pier

£1bn civil service tasks to be open for bidding

BY SHEILA GUNN AND RAY CLANCY



PRIVATE firms will be allowed to bid for tens of thousands of civil servants as part of a Whitehall "revolution", William Waldegrave, the public service minister, disclosed yesterday.

He is to open to market competition work worth more than £1 billion, including secretarial, accounting and legal services, to see whether private operators can do it more cheaply. The initiative to privatise more central government jobs follows the opening of similar local government services to private operators.

Mr Waldegrave will also publish a citizen's charter white paper within the next month setting tougher standards for public service.

Mr Waldegrave, speaking at the Conservative conference, said: "We cannot ever be complacent about how we are serving the public. All over Whitehall we are testing our own services to see whether the private sector could do them better. Sometimes it can, sometimes it can't. We need to know. This year, over a billion pounds' worth of services will

be market-tested as opposed to £25 million this year."

Many contracts could be won by in-house teams if they matched offers from private firms, Mr Waldegrave said.

In a largely low-key debate on the citizen's charter, Mark Francois, a councillor from Basildon, roused activists by insisting that the Union Jack would fly again over the Labour strongholds of Newham, Lambeth, Islington, Camden and Southwark, when the Tories took control.

He punched the air, glorying in the Tories winning Basildon council for the first time in 21 years, and described how its budget had been cut by £5 million in three months.

The only speaker against the motion, Kay Twischen, an Essex county councillor, said that it failed to address the growing problem of banks and building societies giving unsecured credit to young people. Ministers should "get tough with financial institutions", she said.

Tories face hostile, run-down host town

TORIES came into direct conflict with their Brighton hosts yesterday as John Major was accused of bringing new levels of homelessness and poverty to the seaside resort.

The party's first visit to the town under Mr Major made an inauspicious start when Gill Sweeting, Brighton's Labour mayor, took the unprecedented step of using her welcoming speech to condemn government policy.

Inviting ministers to tour Brighton's homes, hostels and advice centres, she warned them: "You will not see a nation at ease with itself, nor will you see the classless society which the prime minister has said he wishes to create."

"You do have the power to help reduce the fear of unemployment and the horrors of mortgage repossession and homelessness. Please use it."

Mrs Sweeting's complaints, received with boos and hisses by Tory members, were matched by harsh criticism

from the town's *Evening Argus* newspaper, which has launched a conference week crusade to highlight the problems of the once prosperous town.

The newspaper has bitterly condemned the contrast between the opulence of the hotel in which leading Tories are staying and the boarded-up shops, run-down streets and homelessness of the surrounding area. A front-page editorial proclaimed: "Brighton, Hove and Hastings are now experiencing the sort of deprivation and social upheaval once found only in the land of closed coal pits and empty cotton mills."

Churchill Square, a faded 1960s shopping precinct within 400 yards of the conference centre, is a depressing contrast to the celebrated

seafront elegance. More than 20 shops are boarded up and retailers and shoppers see little likelihood of improvement.

In five years, John Garnsey has seen his *Slims* healthfood restaurant slip from being a prosperous business to becoming worthless. "Then it was worth about £80,000. Now people would laugh if I tried to give it away," he said.

Like several other businesses, however, he apportioned much blame to the lack of council spending, poor car parking and the movement of large supermarkets to out-of-town locations. A manager of a leading national retailer said: "It would be foolish to say this is all down to the government. We are having a tough time because of the recession but we are not

helped by the lack of effort in promoting the town."

In the midst of attacks from outside, Tory activists were also concentrating their attention on John Major, relying on him to deliver a leader's speech of Thatcheresque power and authority to calm party nerves and raise morale.

Rank and file members showed unusual trepidation yesterday as many admitted they were looking almost exclusively to the prime minister and Norman Lamont to restore battered confidence through rousing addresses.

Although members express total confidence in Mr Major's leadership, there is widespread concern that he has not taken a sufficiently positive stand in controlling dissenters within the party.

John Major and Norman Lamont are very much on trial. It is absolutely vital that they show very firm leadership. They can't fudge the issues," said Richard Booth, from Morley and Leeds South.

Shephard is worried

GILLIAN Shephard, the employment secretary, admitted yesterday that she was "extremely concerned" at Britain's rising unemployment (Julia Llewellyn Smith writes).

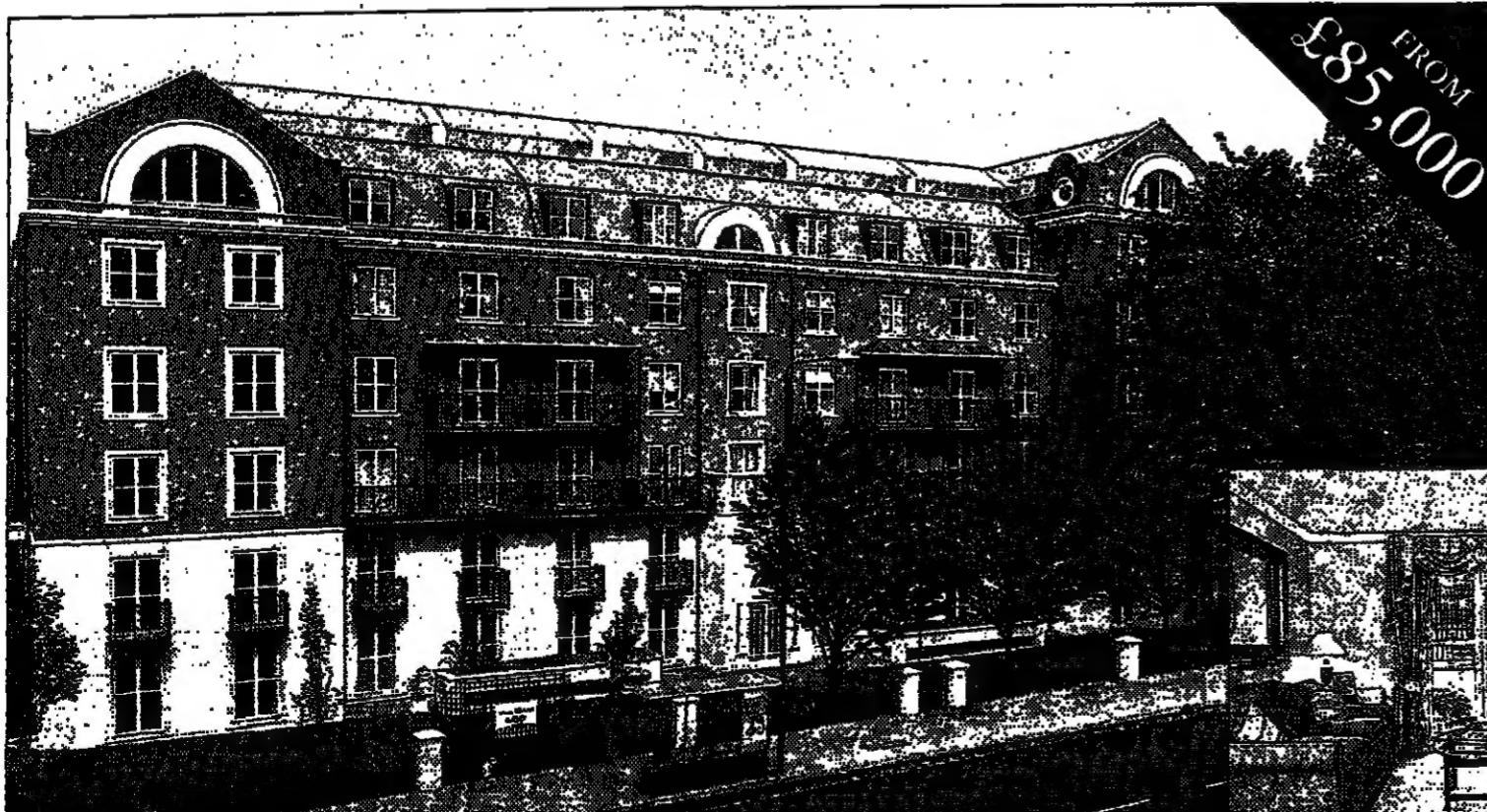
She promised to highlight unemployment in her speech to the conference this week and said the thousands of redundancies announced over the past two weeks had been "devastating" for those affected.

She refused to deny speculation that she will abolish wage councils, which set minimum pay rates for 2.5 million workers.

Mrs Shephard was speaking at the launch of a European-wide public service broadcast giving advice on finding work in the EC. The initiative, to help the EC's 16 million unemployed, will be broadcast in 12 European countries. Radio One is sponsoring 100 telephone lines, manned by 600 employment and training specialists, to give free careers advice.

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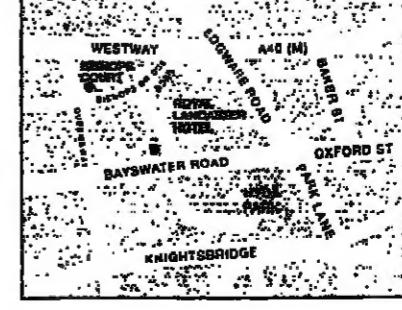
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Judge attacks GMC over bogus doctor cleared of killing

By TIM JONES

A JUDGE yesterday criticised the General Medical Council and a health authority as he jailed a bogus doctor prosecuted after the death of an elderly woman.

Passing a total sentence of three and a half years on Matthew Braffman, 33, a former US Army paramedic said by a psychiatrist to be suffering from a Walter Mitty syndrome, Judge Verney, Recorder of London, said: "It is



Impostor: Braffman treated Jessie Harris, right

Checks that failed to uncover a fraud

By TIM JONES

WHEN he was finally exposed as a sham, Matthew Braffman expressed amazement that he had ever been accepted as a doctor when a single telephone call could have exposed him.

Barking, Havering and Redbridge health authority said yesterday that it took persistent enquiries by them to the General Medical Council to confirm suspicions that he was not a qualified doctor.

In order to get his job as a senior house officer at St George's Hospital, Braffman, who was dyslexic and could not spell, was helped by his wife in forging qualification certificates from a non-existent medical school in Alabama using forms available at any US newsagent.

The former US army medic obtained his registration by posting a notarised

guilty verdict on a manslaughter charge that the American had denied. After legal submissions at the end of the prosecution case, the judge said that doctors called by the Crown disagreed on why Jessie Harris, 78, died.

The prosecution had said that Braffman tricked his way into getting a job at St George's Hospital at Hornchurch, Essex, and allegedly killed Mrs Harris through lack of care while duty doctor at the hospital. Her body was cremated, making it impossible to determine the cause of death.

Professor Brian Livesley, a geriatric expert, had said that an insulin injection ordered by Braffman without examining Mrs Harris was "as certain a cause of death as if a knife had been stuck into her". Braffman's superior disagreed. Another doctor thought insulin was inappropriate but irrelevant to the cause of death and yet another thought that she had died of septicemia.

Judge Verney said: "There remains a vast area of doubt in this case, and it remains wrong in my judgment for the case to go ahead."

Braffman, of Ilford, east London, was jailed for charges he admitted in the absence of the jury of using false medical registration documents, gaining pecuniary advantage by posing as a doctor and making a false death certificate for Mrs Harris.

His wife Alison, 30, was placed on probation for two years for aiding and abetting him in forging the documents. The couple kissed in the dock before Braffman was led to the Muslim education.

Brian Barker, QC, for the prosecution, had said that Mrs Harris, admitted after a fall at her home, "should have left hospital alive, well and recovered after a few days' treatment".

Mr Barker said that Braffman was "bogus, he was a sham; he was an impostor masquerading as a qualified doctor". He liked to walk through the hospital in green operating theatre kit, even though the hospital did not have a theatre.

Police who investigated the case claimed that the council had "failed miserably" to protect the public.

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£5,000-£9,999	7.00%	7.19%	5.25%	5.35%
£2,000-£4,999	6.80%	6.94%	5.50%	5.58%

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Top woman: Lesley Woodward, 35, a nurse from Hessle, Humberside, shown with her daughter Sarah, 5, received Good Housekeeping magazine's Woman of the Nineties award in London yesterday. She works with breast cancer patients for Hull health authority

Teachers anger Muslims by opposing school grants

By MATTHEW D'ANCONA, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MUSLIM leaders said yesterday that they were amazed and upset by the opposition of Britain's second largest teaching union to government plans to give state funding to Muslim education.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers has warned John Patten, the education secretary, that the proposal is a recipe for religious strife that could destabilise local communities.

It said in its response to the white paper on education that the invitation to community groups to set up grant-maintained voluntary schools threatened to upset "the delicate and historic compromise that was reached over religious schools in 1944".

The white paper's proposal

has been widely interpreted as a relaxation of the government's opposition to Muslim schools in the wake of concerted lobbying by Islamic groups.

Mr Patten was instructed by the courts in May to reconsider an application by a private Muslim school in Brent, north London, to become state funded. Similar applications from fee-paying Islamic schools to the education department are now expected.

Nigel de Gruchy, the union's general secretary, said that the white paper's proposal was potentially dangerous and totally unnecessary.

"When Catholic, Church of England and Jewish communities have their voluntary aided schools, it is obviously difficult, if not impossible, to resist the demands of other religious groups. However, we have to recognise that developments in this area could generate enormous pressures upon society," he said.

Ghulam Sarwar, director of the Muslim Educational Trust, said that the union's objections were extraordinary.

"We think the white paper is making a positive proposal, extending the right of other communities to set up grant-maintained schools and we do not subscribe to the union's view. They don't want to see other communities availing themselves of this right," he said.

There were unlikely to be many Islamic grant-maintained schools, given that only 22 private Muslim schools had been set up in England.

The Muslim "parliament", which has threatened a campaign of civil disobedience to force state funding of Muslim schools, said the union had illustrated the deep-seated animosity that existed towards Islam.

"We would have expected teachers to have been understanding because they are the ones who deal with the child-

ren all the time," a spokesman said.

The union's submission to the white paper consultation, to be launched today at a Conservative party conference fringe meeting, also said that schools opting out of council control to gain more autonomy had been misled by the government, which was now planning a new centralised bureaucracy. The proposal that local authorities co-operated with the new national funding agency for schools was "bizarre and beyond belief", it said.

□ Libraries at the former polytechnics spent an average of



De Gruchy: danger of pressures on society

£23 per student in 1990 compared with £44 by universities, according to a survey by the Council of Academic and Professional Publishers.

Spending ranged from £1.59 at Birmingham Polytechnic, now the University of Central England, to £96.81 at Oxford University and £98.25 at the London Business School.

Book expenditure per student fell by 32 per cent at traditional universities between 1978 and 1990 and by 56 per cent at the former polytechnics. Expenditure on periodicals also fell dramatically, by 36 per cent at the traditional universities and by nearly 51 per cent in the old polytechnics.

PLANS are being drawn up for a radical overhaul of the legal aid scheme under which solicitors would like budget-holding GPs to undertake legal aid work on contracts under strict quality controls and with pay incentives.

The proposals by the Legal Aid Board will be put to the Law Society this week. They envisage all legal aid work, including criminal legal aid and the duty solicitor schemes, being brought under strict quality controls. In return, solicitors will have greater freedom to operate legal aid budgets and be paid more quickly. There might also be different levels of reward to match a firm's level of compliance with the quality controls.

As in doctors' practices, the board also envisages block funding of legal aid work where firms process cases with control based on audit principles. The proposals go much further than a pilot scheme in Birmingham, where quality controls operated by the Legal Aid Board only apply to monitoring firms' work as it goes through the legal aid area offices. Now the board is devising ways of monitoring solicitors' work in their offices.

The Lord Chancellor, who will be asked to approve the proposals after details have been hammered out with the Law Society, endorses the principle of contracting out.

At a time when the profession is already locked in a dispute with the Lord Chancellor's Department over a new scheme of fixed fees for legal aid work in magistrates' courts, the franchising proposals are certain to provide the basis for a new dispute between the profession and the government.

A rusting "eyesore" was listed as a national monument by civil servants yesterday because they said, the 110-year-old gas-holder in Cardiff bears the hallmarks of the fifteenth-century architect Filippo Brunelleschi, designer of the domes of Florence.

British Gas said it was surprised by the decision and added that it would cost £400,000 to repair the 150ft-high derelict gasometer.

Residents said it spoilt the view of the Bristol Channel from Gregson's Lane. Huw Parry, 36, a shopkeeper, said: "It is incredibly ugly, neither use nor ornament." Peter Perkins, leader of South Glamorgan council, said the gasometer should be demolished because it was deterring potential investors in the area and driving away new jobs.

Murder hunt

A murder hunt was launched after a man was found battered to death in Sherwood Forest, Nottinghamshire. Kevin Coniam, 36, unemployed, of Church Warsop, Nottinghamshire, was slumped on the rear seat of his Volvo near the A6075 between Mansfield and Edwinstowe.

Reward offer

A reward of more than £10,000 has been offered for information leading to the conviction of thieves who stole £10 million of antiques from Houghton Hall near King's Lynn, Norfolk, the loss adjusters announced. The property must also be returned in good condition.

Lakes decision

The Lake District special planning board rejected an application by British Nuclear Fuels Limited for a borehole at Gosforth in the national park in connection with a proposed underground nuclear repository at Sellafield, Cumbria.

Rail vandals

A train travelling at 70mph struck concrete slabs left by vandals on the Northampton to Euston line at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Nobody was injured and the train was undamaged.

Arms amnesty

Three hand grenades were among 476 weapons handed in at police stations during a weapons amnesty in Greater Manchester. Two dated from the second world war and one was a modern Eastern European grenade.

River enquiry

The National Rivers Authority launched an investigation after hundreds of fishermen complained of raw sewage in the River Kennet, near the mouth of Foundry Brook, Reading, Berkshire.

Thief repents

A thief who stole a chisel from a National Trust building in York 20 years ago, when he was a boy, has returned it with an anonymous letter of apology. Nobody at the Treasurer's House knew that the figure, taken from a wall clock, was missing.

Yeltsin turns military screws on Georgia as rebels sweep forward

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

GEORGIA suffered a defeat yesterday as separatist rebels sent its forces fleeing from their last remaining strongholds in the far northwest of the country.

At the same time, Russia, which is accused by Georgia of fomenting the rebellion, said it would strengthen its military presence in the Black Sea republic and secure control of a strategic railway line.

The advance by fighters from the Abkhazian minority, backed by Cossack and Muslim volunteers from southern Russia, meant that Georgia had lost control of virtually all its coastline north of Sukhumi, the regional capital.

Rebel forces rolled through the villages of Gantidze and Leseidze in armoured cars as hundreds of fighters, includ-



ing the Georgian forces' young commander, Gia Karashvili, and thousands of civilians took flight.

The setback presents Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister, with the most acute challenge since he took power in his homeland last March. It comes five days before elections which he has been

hoping will legitimise his rule. If he can act quickly to convince Georgians that he is the man to reverse the country's military retreat, he could ride to victory. If not, his position could be vulnerable to a challenge from the military commanders on whose backs he rode to power — notably Tengiz Kitovani, the defence minister. Supporters of ex-President Gamsakhurdia could reassess themselves.

Mr Shevardnadze's dilemma was sharpened by comments from President Yeltsin which seemed calculated to appease the pro-Abkhazian lobby in the Russian parliament and anger Georgians. After pledging that Russia would not tolerate violations of the human rights of its kith and kin, he singled out the Baltic states and "Abkhazia and Georgia" as places where such abuses were taking place.

The implication that Abkhazia, which under the Soviet system was an "autonomous republic" enjoying limited self-rule, and Georgia are separate places will enraged Tbilisi. Mr Yeltsin twisted the knife by saying that far from withdrawing its forces from Georgia, as some Georgian officials are demanding, Russia was actually increasing its military presence there.

"We are not pulling out our contingent, because it is necessary for us to take under control the railway line from the 'Russian-Abkhazian border to the Abkhazian-Georgian border," he said, again appearing to question Georgia's jurisdiction over Abkhazia. Mr Yeltsin said he hoped to meet Mr Shevardnadze, and Vladislav Ardzinba, the Abkhazian leader, as well other politicians from the region, somewhere in the conflict zone next week. However, it could be embarrassing for the Georgian leader to attend such a meeting at a time when anti-Russian sentiment is sweeping through the republic.

Balkan aid agencies battling to cope

FROM ADAM LEBOURG ZAGREB AND TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

THE growing human misery in the former Yugoslav republics is overwhelming the efforts of aid agencies. Officials say they will need to provide 1.9 million people with food and shelter if they are to avoid a lingering death from cold and hunger.

Ron Redmond, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva, said: "It is hard to imagine that hundreds of thousands of people could die in the heart of Europe, but this could happen if the international community does not respond quickly enough. This is a race against time and at the moment we are losing."

The United Nations says it needs overall \$1.025 million (£596 million) to fund its relief efforts until April 1993. The UN High Commissioner for

Refugees says it has so far only received \$184 million of the \$282 million it needs just for priority needs. This lack of funds means the organisation cannot buy the equipment to get the relief aid through.

The Yugoslav armed forces, meanwhile, said yesterday that they would retreat from the strategic Prevlaka peninsula in southern Croatia. The announcement was made as nationalists argued that, if the strategic headland is given up, the Croats will control access to the only significant remaining natural harbour in the former Yugoslavia.

Franjo Tudjman, the Croatian president, agreed to the demilitarisation of Prevlaka under UN supervision, when he met his Yugoslav counterpart, Dobrica Cosic, in Geneva last week.



Romany riches: a gaily printed dress with black belt brings a gypsy look to the ready-to-wear spring and summer collection from Byblos in Milan

Jail guards shoot down minister's escape plan

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

MICHEL Vauzelle, the French justice minister, may have been watching too many thriller films, at least according to the prison guards' union. He provoked mockery and outrage from the officers after he suggested yesterday that they shoot at helicopters being used to spring prisoners from jail.

His idea came after three prisoners were flown out of Bois d'Arcy prison, near Paris, on Sunday in the fourth such escape involving helicopters since July. In all of them, accomplices of the prisoners chartered the aircraft for sightseeing or photography and then put a gun to the pilot's head and ordered him to fly to the nearest prison.

In one attempt last month, the guards at Saint-Maur prison shot dead an inmate as he was being hoisted out of the exercise yard. Their bullets struck the helicopter, wounding the pilot and forcing down the craft. On Sunday, M Vauzelle was angered that, despite government orders to airfields to check identities of passengers and search their baggage, a company at St Cyr l'Ecole, on the western edge of Paris, was fooled by a known gangster posing as a flying enthusiast.

The passenger forced Georges Agricet, the pilot, to touch down in the exercise yard where Michel Lepage, an armed robber, was waiting with colleagues, waving handkerchiefs. The guards, who were under orders not to shoot at aircraft, did nothing.

M Vauzelle said he had ordered an immediate review of the law covering the use of firearms during escape attempts "in order to make the presidents of aero-clubs and pilots and also the accomplices think carefully about using this method". The government is equipping prison grounds with anti-helicopter cables, but the guards say these will be insufficient to prevent aircraft from hoisting prisoners up on ropes.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kurdish factions wage war

Istanbul: War has broken out between the Kurds of northern Iraq and members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) waging a separatist campaign against Turkey (Andrew Finkel writes). A force of 10,000 peshmerga fighters, as well as armed villagers, launched a campaign yesterday to drive the PKK from its bases, according to the Ankara office of the Iraqi Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

The Iraqi Kurds are angry at what they describe as the intimidation of their people who are trying to resettle the villages they were forced to abandon by the policies of President Saddam Hussein.

Russian rally

Moscow: Hundreds of supporters of the ultra-nationalist Patriotic movement met for a conference to hear denunciations of "international Zionism" and President Yeltsin.

Tatar protest

Kiev: Police in the Crimean capital, Simferopol, used tear gas to disperse Tatars who tried to storm the regional parliament after police dismantled a Tatar settlement in Ukraine last week.

Sewage claim

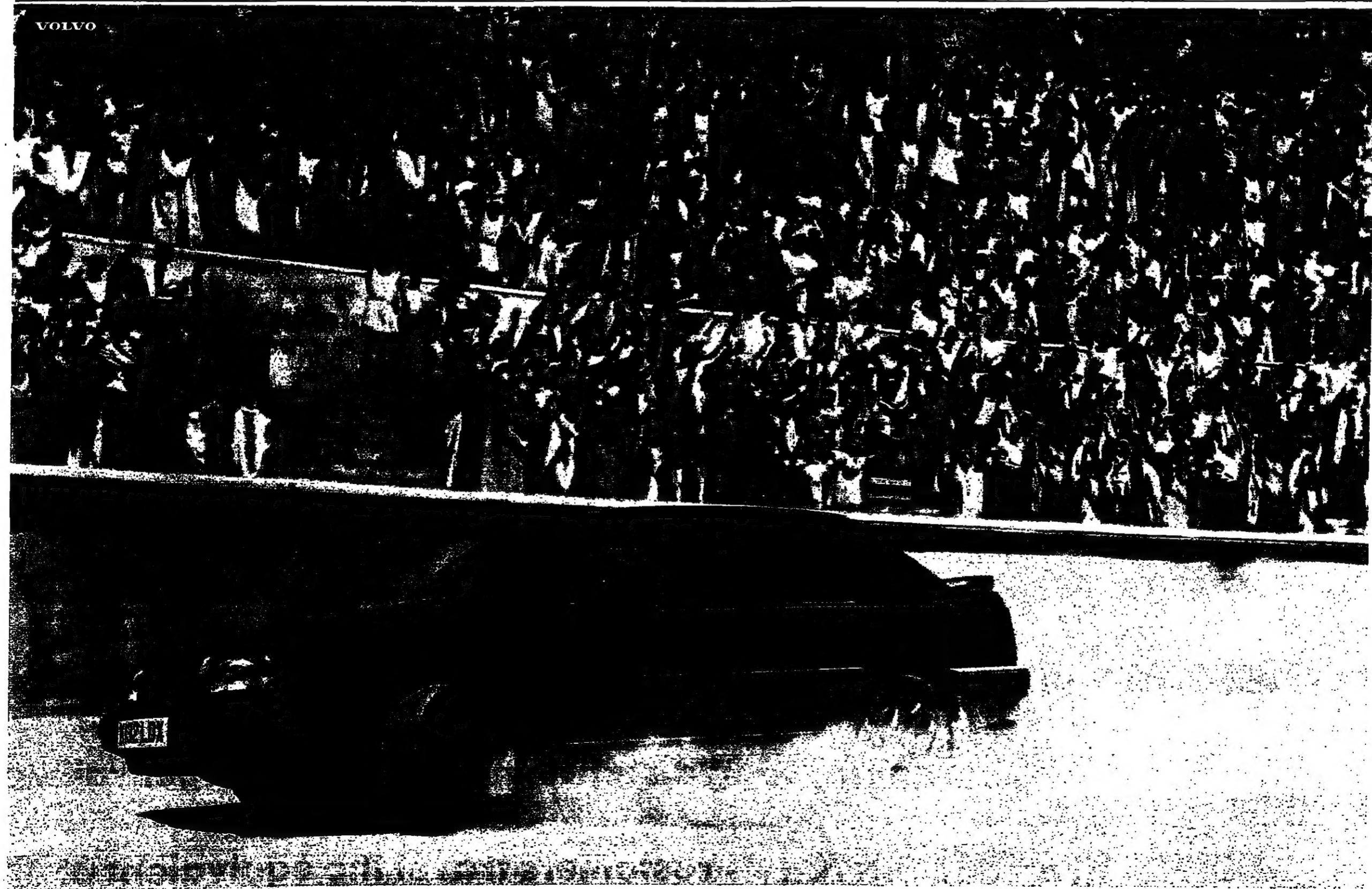
Hong Kong: Environmentalists claimed more than two million tonnes of untreated sewage are discharged into coastal waters daily, blaming the pollution for a large increase in hepatitis A. (Reuters)

Train bombed

Assuit: Three people were killed and ten wounded when a bomb exploded on an Egyptian train in Dayrat. The southern town has seen continuing violence involving Islamic militants. (Reuters)

Capital gains

Berlin: Joost van Orten, a Dutch company manager, became the world Monopoly champion, and won £8,800. On the board, he bankrupted his four opponents in 85 minutes. (Reuters)



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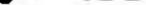
Despite all this, the admission price is more Cricklewood than Hollywood.

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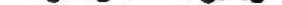
An InterCity electric train emits only 0.2% of the carbon dioxide of a car.

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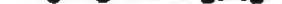
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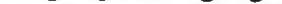
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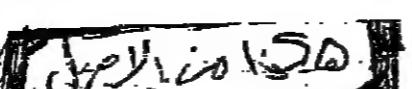
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INTERCITY

Boost for democracy in the Gulf

Opposition sweeps to victory in Kuwait

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN KUWAIT CITY

ANTI-GOVERNMENT candidates from a loose coalition of opposition groups swept to victory yesterday in the first election held since Kuwait's parliament was dissolved by the emir in 1986.

Although only 81,400 males were eligible to vote — one in seven of the adult male population — the results on an average turnout of more than 80 per cent were seen as sending a stark message to the ruling al-Sabah family that Kuwaitis are anxious for reform after their liberation from Iraq.

"Kuwait votes for change," declared the banner headline in the normally pro-government *Arab Times*, while the more sedate *Kuwait Times* led with "Opposition sends strong message".

With the presence of independents among the 50 deputies blurring allegiances and with some political parties still outlawed, observers estimated that anti-government candidates won 70 per cent of

elected seats in the new parliament due to assemble later this month. As in other recent Arab elections, pro-Islamic candidates were the biggest winners, with their three groups claiming 18 deputies. Many are demanding stricter implementation of Sharia (Islamic law), but a number also support votes for women, who were barred from standing or voting. Another 12 seats went to opposition liberals, anxious to develop the parliament as a forum for control of the executive and to expand Kuwait's limited democracy.

Another, Hamad al-Jouan, campaigned from a wheelchair having been crippled by an assassination attempt. He said the election was only the beginning of the renewal of the democratic process. Twice in the past, parliamentarians critical of the regime have been shut down under the emir's power of dissolution.

The new parliament will meet weekly in its seafront headquarters, refurbished at a cost of \$60 million (£35 million) after being wrecked by the occupying Iraqis. Western diplomats, familiar with many of the candidates, said it was certain to provide a forum for open debate that would stand out in the Arab world.

Two of the deputies likely to be most prominent in the parliament claim to have been victims of politically motivated



Riding high: an opposition candidate, Dr Ismail al-Shatti, celebrating his victory in Kuwait City yesterday

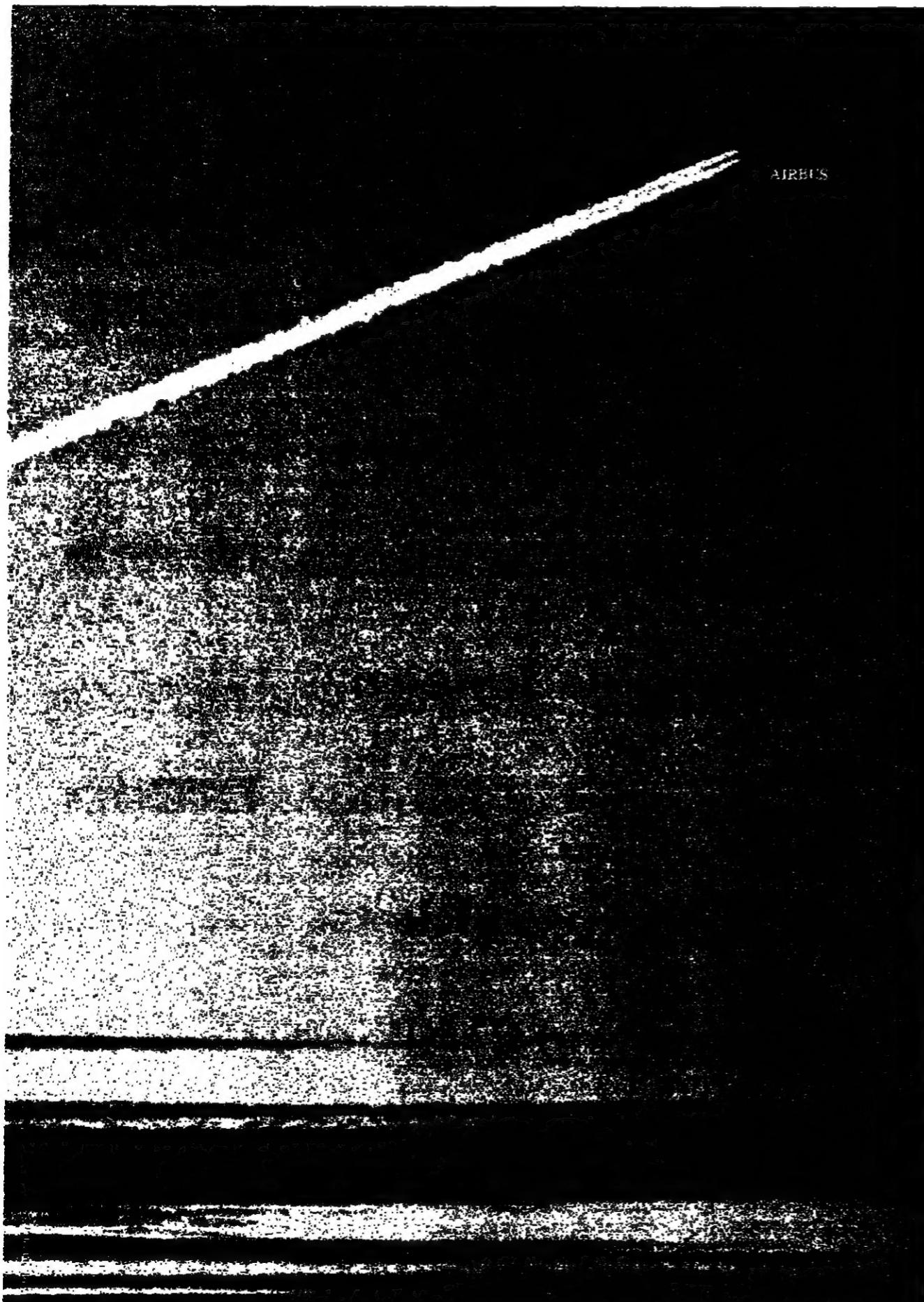
has a long record in leading the Gulf states in forcing the pace of democratic change. Saudi Arabia is known to have been deeply anxious about the effects on its domestic politics

of an opposition victory in Kuwait. Muhammad al-Qadiri, a spokesman for the Democratic Forum which had its two leading candidates returned, predicted that depu-

ties would protest by refusing to take their seats if they were not consulted by the al-Sabahs about the formation of a new cabinet. Kuwaiti women, who

mounted two unprecedented street demonstrations on polling day, were optimistic that the result would boost their campaign to secure the vote by the next election in 1996.

*Together we have reached the height of success.
(and you know what success breeds.)*



Cooperation between Aerospatiale and British aerospace industries has stood the test of time. More than 20 years ago their combined skills gave birth to Concorde and to the age of supersonic transport. Today, Aerospatiale and British Aerospace continue their close collaboration in the European Airbus programme — the 180 aircraft which have been sold demonstrate the high degree of technological and commercial achievement they have reached together. Achievement which has also stimulated further cooperation in the development of joint defence programmes. As never before, the continued growth of the French and British aerospace industries now depends on maintaining this level of cooperation.

AEROSPATIALE

ACHIEVEMENT HAS A NAME

PUBLICIS FCB

Savimbi risks return to war

BY SAM KILEY
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

A resumption of the Angolan civil war came closer yesterday after Jonas Savimbi, facing defeat in Angola's first democratic elections, withdrew his soldiers from the newly formed national army and demanded a suspension of the election.

The Angolan government said that it would not turn the other cheek if Dr Savimbi reacted with violence to electoral defeat and riot police were out in force in Luanda, the capital, setting up roadblocks and protecting government buildings.

The potential survival of multiparty democracy in Angola was not only depressing for the country's war-weary population but also bodes ill for democratisation elsewhere in the continent, especially southern Africa and perhaps South Africa.

Part of last week's peace agreement signed between the Mozambican administration and the Renamo rebels was that elections should be held within the next year. But as the process was in danger of unravelling in Angola yesterday, hopes for a peaceful transition in Mozambique also dimmed.

In Luanda yesterday, Dr Savimbi, president of the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), looked certain to lose against President dos Santos, who, with 86 per cent of the ballots counted, had taken 51.2 per cent of the votes against Dr Savimbi's 39 per cent.

An end to the 16-year Angolan civil war between Unita and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) came last year when the MPLA government was forced to negotiate.

About 11,000 Unita troops and 28,000 from the government's army were officially integrated on the eve of the elections in an attempt to set up a single force of what should eventually have been 50,000 men. The withdrawal of Unita's forces from the armed forces of Angola is the most serious threat from Dr Savimbi so far of a return to war. But the move has not come as a surprise. When campaigning he said repeatedly that he expected Unita to win and if it did not then he would have to say that the elections were rigged.

America has made clear to him that he can expect no international support if he abandons democracy for armed conflict.



Savimbi: wants poll process to be halted

Palestinians' fast jeopardises talks

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

SEVERAL thousand Palestinian prisoners started their tenth day on hunger strike yesterday, in a nationwide protest against Israeli jail conditions that could jeopardise the forthcoming Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The hunger strike involves about one-third of the estimated 12,500 Palestinian security prisoners, who have vowed to remain on a diet of water and salt until conditions at 13 facilities run by the Israeli prison service are improved.

Word of the protest, the first of its kind since 1987 in Israel, was revealed after inmates wrote to Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general. Their 28 demands included an end to solitary confinement over long periods, the closure of special underground punishment sections, better food, no overcrowding, proper medical treatment, and a halt to physical abuse by guards.

Hosni Sharakeh, who was released last week from the West Bank prison in Nablus after serving six years in four Israeli jails, said that the action was not politically motivated, but caused by genuine frustration. The authorities have refused to meet the prisoners' demands. Moshe Shahal, the Israeli police minister, insists that no talks are possible until the strike is called off. Palestinian and Israeli leaders are increasingly concerned that what began as a straightforward protest over prison conditions could spiral into a political test of wills between the government of Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, and the Palestinian leadership in the occupied territories, who are due to resume their talks in Washington on October 21.

Right-wing Republicans turn all their attention to 1996

"IT AIN'T over till it's over," the noted American baseball player and philosopher, Yogi Berra, was fond of saying. But for those on the right wing of the Republican party, the 1992 election is, indeed, over. They are turning their attention to 1996.

However, the conservative wing of the party — the group that provided the intellectual muscle of the Reagan revolution and the foot soldiers for Ronald Reagan in 1980 and 1984 and for George Bush in 1988 — is bifurcated. On the one hand, there is the social right, the voter to whom questions such as school prayer, abortion, the allegedly pernicious effect of American "culture" on family values and other such subjects are of crucial importance. It is difficult for non-Americans to appreciate the emotive power of these issues. But keep in mind that 71 per cent of

Americans agree that "there is something morally wrong with the country" and that 61 per cent of Republicans do not think non-discrimination laws should be used to protect homosexuals.

On the other hand, there is the economic right, which includes intellectuals and many in the business community who saw in Mr Reagan's tax-cutting and deregulation the key to unleashing American enterprise and industrial ingenuity. These are less concerned about so-called family values than about share values and tend to view the social agenda of their brethren on the right as a distraction. To them, a reinvigoration of the "Reaganomics" revolution is the key to America's future.

These, broadly, are distinct groups and they have begun to look at 1996 in very different ways. The social right sees no

Irwin Stelzer, right, writes that social and economic conservatives in George Bush's party have lost interest in this year's poll and are seeking a champion for next time

hope for America unless the moral authority of the family is restored, sex and violence are cut out of television and films, and homosexual and other non-traditional lifestyles are denied public acceptance.

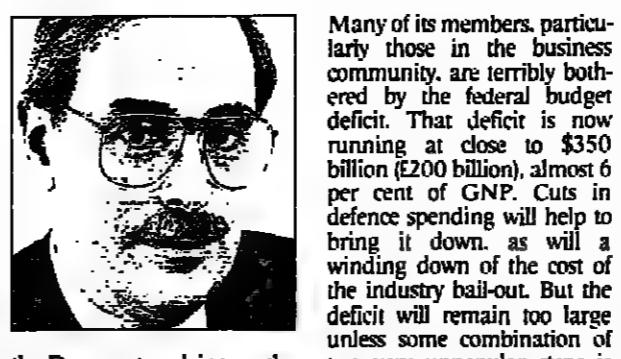
With Pat Buchanan virtually invisible, and the Rev Pat Robertson consigned to the narrowly focused Christian Coalition, Vice-President Dan Quayle is the social right's mainstream politician of choice.

The situation among members of the economic right is a bit more muddled. Some remember that Mr Quayle's council on competitiveness resisted the tide of new regula-

tions unleashed by Bush appointees and are willing to sign on with the vice-president for 1996.

Others look to Jack Kemp, now ending four frustrating years as an ignored member of Mr Bush's cabinet. He has long espoused lower taxes, less regulation, private-sector initiatives to cure such social ills as inner-city riots and a host of other Reaganite programmes.

To his supporters, who include most of the state chairmen of the Republican party, Mr Kemp is the key to an open, more inclusive party, more concerned about the socially disadvantaged than the Quayle group but, unlike



the Democrats, relying on the private sector rather than government for solutions. They point not only to Mr Kemp's long support of supply-side tax cuts and enterprise zones, but also to his speech at the Republican convention in Houston, regarded as second only to Mr Reagan's in optimism and in offering creative solutions to economic ills.

But Mr Kemp faces one difficulty in rallying the economic right to his banner.

Many of its members, particularly those in the business community, are terribly bothered by the federal budget deficit. That deficit is now running at close to \$350 billion (£200 billion), almost 6 per cent of GNP. Cuts in defence spending will help to bring it down, as will a winding down of the cost of the industry bail-out. But the deficit will remain too large unless some combination of two very unpopular steps is taken: raise taxes, or cut so-called "entitlement" payments made under various social security and welfare schemes.

Mr Kemp favours neither, continuing to believe that economic growth alone eventually will wipe out the deficit. Certainly, he does not see tax increases as any part of the solution to the deficit.

That is why some members of the business community prefer Texas Senator Phil

Gramm, a former economics professor who switched from the Democratic to the Republican party in 1983. Mr Gramm has been wooing Republican businessmen, building a campaign chest for a run at the presidential nomination in 1996. What he quietly promises is that Mr Kemp does not is a more old-fashioned, pre-Reagan view of budgetary matters, more in the tradition of the late Senator Robert Taft of Ohio and, lately, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas. To these traditional Republican conservatives, the deficit matters. And it must be eliminated. Only then can economic growth resume.

The fractured Republican right can take one comfort from all this turmoil: it belies the notion that it has run out of ideas. Irvin Kristol, the American Enterprise Institute scholar and the father of the neo-conservative movement

that fuelled the Reagan revolution, agrees that the right has not run out of ideas. What is lacking, he says, is a champion who can turn the ideas being laid out in conservative opinion journals into reality: one who, unlike Mr Bush, does not prefer consensus to confrontation. Whether that proves to be Mr Quayle, Mr Kemp or Mr Gramm, or, as some thoughtful conservatives are hoping, a dark horse such as Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, will become clearer the day after this election, when the serious jockeying for advantage in 1996 begins.

Irwin Stelzer is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington DC, and will be contributing a weekly column to The Times in the run-up to the American general election

Anthony Howard, page 12

Challenge by Perot fails to damage Clinton lead

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush's hold on the White House looked increasingly shaky yesterday. On Monday night, Congress overrode a presidential veto for the first time since he came to office, and the first authoritative poll since Ross Perot's re-entry showed the Texan's candidacy has barely dented Bill Clinton's lead.

The override on a popular bill regulating the cable television industry underscored Mr Bush's waning political strength four weeks before the election. The Democratic-controlled House and Senate had failed to muster the two-thirds majorities required to overturn any of his 35 previous vetoes, but on this occasion frantic White House lobbying failed to convert a single Republican senator and 24 voted against him. In the House, 77 Republicans defied the president.

Mr Bush maintained yesterday that he was "right on principle" but Mr Clinton said the vote "won't do him any good". Al Gore, Mr Clinton's running mate, called the override "an indication of the winds of change that are blowing across the country".

New polls by *The New York Post*, *The Washington Post* and the Harris organisation gave the Arkansas governor leads over Mr Bush of eight, 11 and 17 points respectively, dashing Republican hopes that Mr Perot's new candidacy would split the anti-Bush vote and put the president back on level terms.

Mr Perot, who was last night airing his first 30-minute commercial on prime time television, received no more than 9 per cent support in any of the polls. Four-fifths of his former supporters said they no longer trusted him and 72 per cent of respondents said he should have stayed out of the race.

The detailed figures were still grimmer for Mr Bush. He has spent days painting his

opponent as a closet tax-and-spender, but in the *Post* poll 40 per cent said they preferred Mr Clinton's tax policies and only 28 per cent Mr Bush's. Three-quarters of Mr Clinton's supporters said they would definitely not change their minds before November 3, compared to two-thirds of Mr Bush's. Just 16 per cent of *Times* respondents approved of President Bush's economic stewardship.

Next week's presidential debates could still turn the race around, but now little seems to be going the way of a president who, in contrast to his opponent, looks tired, sounds rambling and acts desperate.

The *Post* exacerbated the sense of disarray by disclosing that Richard Darman, Mr Bush's budget director, offered his resignation when Mr Bush said recently that he had made a "mistake" in breaking his "no new taxes" pledge. Mr Darman considers the \$500 billion, five-year deficit reduction package the most responsible economic policy decision the president had made.

Mr Clinton, meanwhile, scoffed at what he called Republican-inspired rumours that, as an Oxford student opposed to the Vietnam war, he had visited Moscow at the KGB's invitation and had sought to renounce his American citizenship to avoid the draft. The Republicans had "been in power a long time and they are behind a little now and they are stirring everything they can, but this old dog won't hunt," he said.

The mystery over the pages missing from Mr Clinton's State Department passport file continued last night. It was confirmed that the FBI was investigating. Bush supporters have long been encouraging reporters to look into Mr Clinton's anti-war activities while at Oxford, but the Bush campaign denied tampering with Mr Clinton's file.

FORGET the candidates. The rising star of this election is a 58-year-old chat show host called Larry King. He only has to crook his finger and George Bush, Bill Clinton or Ross Perot come running on his show.

The president was on last Sunday and will be back again tonight. Governor Clinton and his running mate, Al Gore, managed to squeeze in on Monday and are said to be returning later in the week. Ross Perot has used the show twice as a launch-pad for his campaign.

What makes it all the more remarkable is that Mr King is no conventional megastar of the networks. His show is screened on CNN and, though it attracts a nightly audience of more than two million, that hardly puts it at the top of the ratings tables. Yet in shirt-sleeves and braces with a bracelet on his right wrist, Mr King is a cult phenomenon.

This campaign is his apothecos, and more orthodox television journalists are far from happy about it. They suggest that the candidates

will go on *Larry King Live* — as the show is called, despite its frequent taped interviews — because they know that they will have an easy ride. Indeed, during King's interview with Mr Perot last week Mike Wallace, the veteran star of CBS's flagship current affairs show *Sixty Minutes*, actually rang in to enquire why it was Mr Perot always gave Mr King "most favoured nation" treatment. Was it, he asked, because of "the softballs my friend Larry throws at you?"

The charge, although it clearly netted Mr King, was not wholly unfair. The last 10 minutes of his interview with the president last Sunday night featured Barbara Bush and the family dog, Millie.

It was not, however, the first time a dog has been introduced into a presidential campaign: Franklin Roosevelt started the trend with a

spirited defence of his dog Fala on a radio broadcast more than 50 years ago, and Richard Nixon's famous 1952 TV address to the nation is not known as the "Checkers broadcast" for nothing.

There is no doubt that the contenders find the ambience of *Larry King Live* comfortable, perhaps because it is always so obligingly flexible. The president, for instance, was allowed to insist on taking no calls from viewers last weekend, on the curious ground that it would detract from the dignity of the White House (where the interview was recorded). Tonight he comes back to take calls, so as candidate and incumbent — one could say that he has won each way.

Only the jealous can begrudge King his success. He has had a turbulent life: Mr King has managed to establish himself as a media figure, frequent threats of

bankruptcy, and even a charge of grand larceny against him that was not proceeded with. It is difficult, however, to perceive him as a replica of Sir Robin Day or even as a transatlantic Brian Walden. He prides himself on doing no homework before his interviews, maintaining that this enables him to ask the sort of questions that his viewers would like to ask and, later in the programme, frequently do.

Perhaps what most upsets the more professionally-oriented television interviewers is the degree of dominance Mr King has managed to establish over the current campaign.

It is true that this Congress has produced little of worth, but these papers were an exception. They were 13 new bills that had been approved over the weekend, including an historic measure to provide aid for the former Soviet Republics. Their intended destination was the National Archives.

Their loss was discovered just before 9am and a search of the local rubbish collection centre was instigated, but it was "like looking for a contact lens on a beach," said the Clerk of House.

One of the 13 bills authorised \$2.3 billion to finance the running of Congress itself. After a year that has produced the House bank scandal, the House post office scandal and almost complete legislative "gridlock", self-deprecating humour is the order of the day among congressmen up for re-election. "Some people would say the janitor did the country a favour," remarked Robert Walker, a Pennsylvania Republican.

The staple Sunday current affairs shows have paid a particular price. Governor Clinton's last appearance on NBC's *Meet The Press* was in March, and neither he nor the president has any plans to return to it or CBS's rival *Face The Nation* during the four remaining weeks of the campaign.

The message would seem to be that both the candidates and the voters prefer to see this election as essentially a trivial pursuit, where political interest consistently takes second place to human curiosity.

• **Parade chase:** Many Americans would contend that the work of the much-reviled 102nd US Congress was treated with exactly the respect it deserved last Monday (*writes Martin Fletcher*). In the small hours of the morning a cleaner found a box of papers on the floor of a basement office on Capitol Hill and carried it off to the nearest rubbish skip.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Nine killed as storms sweep Italy

Rome: The death toll in a wave of storms battering Italy rose to nine as police reported seven more fatalities in the past 24 hours. Four people died in road accidents caused by heavy rain and two others were swept into the sea. Low-lying areas of Venice remained ankle-deep in water while large areas of the north were flooded.

• **Paris:** Three inches of rain fell in three hours on Nice and surrounding areas and rivers were swollen as storms hit southern France. (Reuters, AP)

Hunger strike

Tokyo: Opposition MPs began a hunger strike to demand the resignation of Shin Kanemaru, "kingmaker" of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, who admitted receiving an illegal £2.4 million donation. (AP)

Cairo plaudit

Cairo: President Mubarak of Egypt marked the anniversary of the 1973 Middle East war by praising Israelis for electing a more conciliatory government in June. (Reuters)

Art retrieved

Moscow: Art masterpieces taken from Nazi Germany, including a drawing of Van Gogh's *Starry Night* found on a cellar floor, have been retrieved from secret storerooms and will be displayed in St Petersburg. (AP)

Doctor's orders

Nairobi: Dundu Owilly, a leading AIDS doctor, warned Kenyans not to bathe their genitals in acid after sex to ward off HIV. Many unsuspecting people have suffered severe burns. (AFP)

Compromise on Hong Kong airport ruled out

Patten fends off pressure from China

FROM JONATHAN BRAUDE
IN HONG KONG



ON THE eve of his maiden policy address to the local legislature, Chris Patten, the governor of Hong Kong, yesterday ruled out compromising the British colony's democratic development to clinch a deal with China over the financing of a controversial £1.5 billion airport project, but admitted that full democracy would not be on his agenda.

He pointed out the need to strike a balance between the moves to democracy sought by the people of Hong Kong and that which will survive the colony's return to Chinese control in 1997. He made it clear that he would not succumb to pressure from Peking to limit Hong Kong's freedoms simply to pave the way for an agreement on the airport, which China has been opposing in an effort to extract further political concessions.

His comments, in an interview with the BBC, did nothing to dampen the intense speculation over the contents of his speech, which

swept to victory in last year's partial democratic elections. China has made it clear it does not want them appointed to the executive council. Mr Patten's inner cabinet.

Faced with that restriction, the governor is likely to appoint business leaders to the executive rather than liberal or conservative politicians.

However, the most able local Chinese might be unwilling to be associated with the final years of British colonialism and the executive council might find itself sidelined while Mr Patten negotiates directly with the Chinese on behalf of the new government.

China has threatened to throw liberal representatives out of office if they win seats under the new polling system.

Mr Patten is pledged to introduce for 1995 and beyond. He has stalled on a two-year-old British promise to approach China for an increase in the 20 directly elected seats Peking is committed to in 1997. The report says the ambitious target set in 1980 of quadrupling China's output by the year 2000 should be surpassed.

Germany and Britain urge subsidy accord

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN LUXEMBOURG

Community can no longer admit that it refuses to face reality."

Herz Möllmann, a long-time advocate of a more flexible EC stance, urged the Community's leading negotiator, Frans Andriessen, to interpret his negotiating mandate broadly.

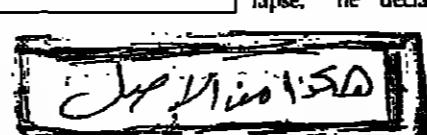
Dominic Strauss-Kahn, the French foreign trade minister, said the Community's chief trade negotiator, in Brussels on Saturday, that progress on the central issue of subsidised food exports is not registered by the time EC leaders meet in Birmingham on October 16, an agreement to boost world trade may never be struck.

The German and British governments warned their EC partners yesterday that a final effort to close the gap between America and the Community over food export rules must be made urgently. France, isolated in opposition to further concessions by the EC, stuck to its insistence that any fresh concessions should come from Washington. Jürgen Möllmann, the German economics minister, said yesterday that signs pointed to President Bush seeking a quick result from the talks. "Let us not let this opportunity lapse," he declared. "The

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Woodrow Wyatt

Inside Europe, the government needs to speak for Britain

Monday's Times Mori poll was startling. In mid-September, before the currency fun and games began, of those with a view 52 per cent were in favour of ratifying the Maastricht treaty and 48 per cent were against. By the end of the month 68 per cent were against and a mere 32 per cent in favour.

John Major has staked his political credibility at home and abroad on Maastricht. Mrs Thatcher is not a lone voice in the Tory party against it. Though comparatively silent temporarily, she leads a vocal and powerful minority in the Tory party in Parliament. Yet if Mr Major speaks, and acts, with confidence and skill, he can overcome his Maastricht problem. If he were defeated in Parliament it could be a resigning matter with the possibility of a snap election. I cannot imagine the Tories risking a defeat or changing their leader so soon after Mr Major led them to victory.

Some stubborn Tory MPs will vote to destroy the ratification bill. They will be more than out-numbered by Labour MPs, whose leader John Smith, obtained overwhelming conference backing for his determination to see Maastricht through. There will not be a referendum here; a bill for it would be defeated by a combination of the prime minister and Mr Smith. Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand badly need the British ratification plus a Danish Yes vote; unless all rally Maastricht collapses. So Mr Major has the strongest cards of all, enabling him to make Maastricht acceptable to general feelings here and in Europe.

This means that the treaty must incorporate a clear, legally binding statement that subsidiarity means Brussels must retreat from, and stay out of, all intervention except where the competition rules of the single market and the fouling of the environment across borders are concerned. There must also be a condition that the Commission ceases to initiate anything of its own volition and may only produce new rules and laws on instructions agreed by the governments.

Best of all would be to replace all the commissioners, with their love of exercising political power by ordering governments about, with professional civil servants accustomed to taking orders, not giving them. Those like Jacques Delors long for a centrally-run federal state because, unhealthily, they are driven by a desire to rule, unelected and unquestioned, the largest number of subjects they can coral together.

If Mr Major has the courage, the strength and the vision to push something of this kind through with our European partners, who need us so badly, his present low opinion poll rating will be transformed. He must be perceived as speaking for Britain as effectively as Herr Kohl and M. Mitterrand speak for German and French interests. Meanwhile, Mr Major and Norman Lamont, who have both made clear that we will not re-enter the exchange-rate mechanism until its methods of operation are radically changed, must convince the country that the drive to hold down inflation will continue without the so-called discipline of the ERM. And that means public spending will be ruthlessly reduced and controlled however much it hurts. They must not bolster public spending by increased taxation; they should aim rapidly to reduce it, to encourage incentive and to continue to differentiate the tax-cutting Tory party from the tax-raising Labour party.

Anthony Howard in Washington on the rigid ideologues who despise the president's pragmatism

Why the right fear Bush

There is a paradox at the heart of the American presidential election. George Bush may be fighting it, on his own terms, as a conservative—but it is precisely the more ideological conservative who holds the greatest reservations about him. To them he represents a throwback to the old consensus tradition of East Coast Republicanism. Among the ranks of the intellectual right (who, as former supply-siders, are not at all attracted by Ross Perot's version of hair-shirt economics) he is perceived not as a policy innovator but rather as a figure who instinctively shrinks from any form of doctrinal innovation. The neo-conservatives who re-made the Republican party after the Barry Goldwater debacle of 1964 view him in effect as the man who has sold the revolution down the river.

All this may not, of course, be entirely the president's fault. Like John Major, he continues to live under the shadow of his predecessor. Ronald Reagan contributed the term Reaganomics to the American political lexicon just as surely as Margaret Thatcher introduced the concept of Thatcherism into the vocabulary of British

politics. The complaint in each case is identical: that where the originators set out to change everything, those who have come after them possess no higher ambition than to keep things ticking over.

As the product of an orderly transition, the president probably has greater reason to resent the comparisons that are constantly made than has the prime minister. President Reagan, after all, was not hustled off the political stage. He retired at the age of 77, having served the maximum term allotted by the US Constitution.

Yet, almost four years later, the old believers are still by no means reconciled to the new regime. Just as the prime minister's sharpest critics were to be found at the time of the last election among those journalistic commentators who had most consistently supported his predecessor, so Mr Bush has come under the heaviest fire from defenders of the old order who

continue to thunder away from a variety of syndicated newspaper pulpits. Such renowned national columnists as William Safire, George Will or Robert Novak have seldom had a good word to say for the president during the present campaign. Safire has branded him "a crypto-liberal". Will has pronounced that "he is almost certainly going to lose, perhaps in a landslide", while (not to be outdone) Novak has declared that he has "charted a course to disaster for himself and his party".

What is about President Bush that makes him so despised a figure by the intellectual right? The explanation for the battering the president has endured may well lie in the relative novelty of conservatism as a political movement in American politics. Even after the Reagan years conservatives recognise that their hold on the Republican party is by no means assured. Like the Tories in Britain until the arrival of Mrs

Thatcher, the Republicans have historically tended to be the less ideological party. If it had been otherwise, men like Wendell Willkie, Thomas E. Dewey or General Eisenhower could never have been nominated as the party's presidential candidates. The conservatives may first have captured the party with Barry Goldwater in 1964 but, partly thanks to the awkward interregnum of the Nixon presidency, it took another 15 years for their ascendancy to be established.

The fear of the ideological right now is that it is all about to be thrown away. With his patrician background, conventional outlook and respect for established institutions Mr Bush hardly seems like a man in whose heart there beats a passion for change. As a defender of the status quo he has not found it too difficult to forge an alliance with the religious right. He also

has plenty of support in the affluent suburbs and the more fashionable country clubs. But winning the allegiance of the economic, still less the libertarian right has posed him a much more difficult challenge. For such people politics is a war of ideas, and to Mr Bush, as to most politicians, ideas are dangerous and alarming things that, if not strictly controlled, can all too easily cause nothing but trouble.

Certainly, no one can claim that Mr Bush ever tried to deceive anyone as to where he stood. In 1988, in his first presidential campaign, he delivered a highly revealing speech. "We don't," he said, "need radical new directions. We need strong and steady leadership. We don't need to re-make society—we just need to remember who we are."

Asked to describe the mandate he thought the people had given him after winning he instinctively replied: "Well, I don't know whether I want to use the word 'mandate'... Given, as every politician knows, that the

"mandate" is the battering ram for change, there could hardly have been a more revealing answer. None of which, of course, is in any way to deny Mr Bush's own claim to be a conservative. He just happens to be a conservative of a rather old-fashioned sort—a consolidator at best and a conservator at worst.

The difficulty for Mr Bush is, though, that such an essentially defensive view of his office puts him badly out of touch with the intellectual *Zeigeist* blowing through his own party. What he perhaps needs most to worry about is the strangely wishful way in which Republican intellectuals are starting to talk about a Clinton victory on November 3 being "no bad thing".

What they mean is that then the party could start afresh, go back to the drawing board and one day hope to return to the excitement and challenge of the early Reagan years. It is a measure of the performance and promise of the 41st president that few, if any, appear to believe that such an intellectual renewal will be possible even if he wins a second term.

Merely a little local difficulty

Reports of the prime minister's death are greatly exaggerated, writes Simon Jenkins

POLITICS TODAY

What political crisis? Just start with the man's power. John Major is prime minister. He is not about to resign. He has an election victory just six months old and a Commons majority that will not risk another. His health is sound. There is no plausible successor. British political power rests on one institution, the cabinet, where sit the oligarchs of the elected majority, each of them at Mr Major's mercy. The cabinet is solid. The prime minister is virtually immune.

All else, to use a fashionable phrase, is subsidiary. The financial markets are consumed with uncertainty; but that bluntly is what they are paid to be. Traders face fluid exchange rates; they have done so before. Britain's European partners are worried about dwindling support for Maastricht. Tough on them; they should have thought of that when they concocted the worst treaty since Versailles.

We are told Mr Major faces a "crisis of competence". So have most prime ministers at some time or other. We are told Norman Lamont has left the nation without an economic policy worth the name. But better no policy for the time being than the dreadful one we had before. The Tories are split on Europe? When were they not?

We hear that this is the worst "total systems failure" since the war. It is

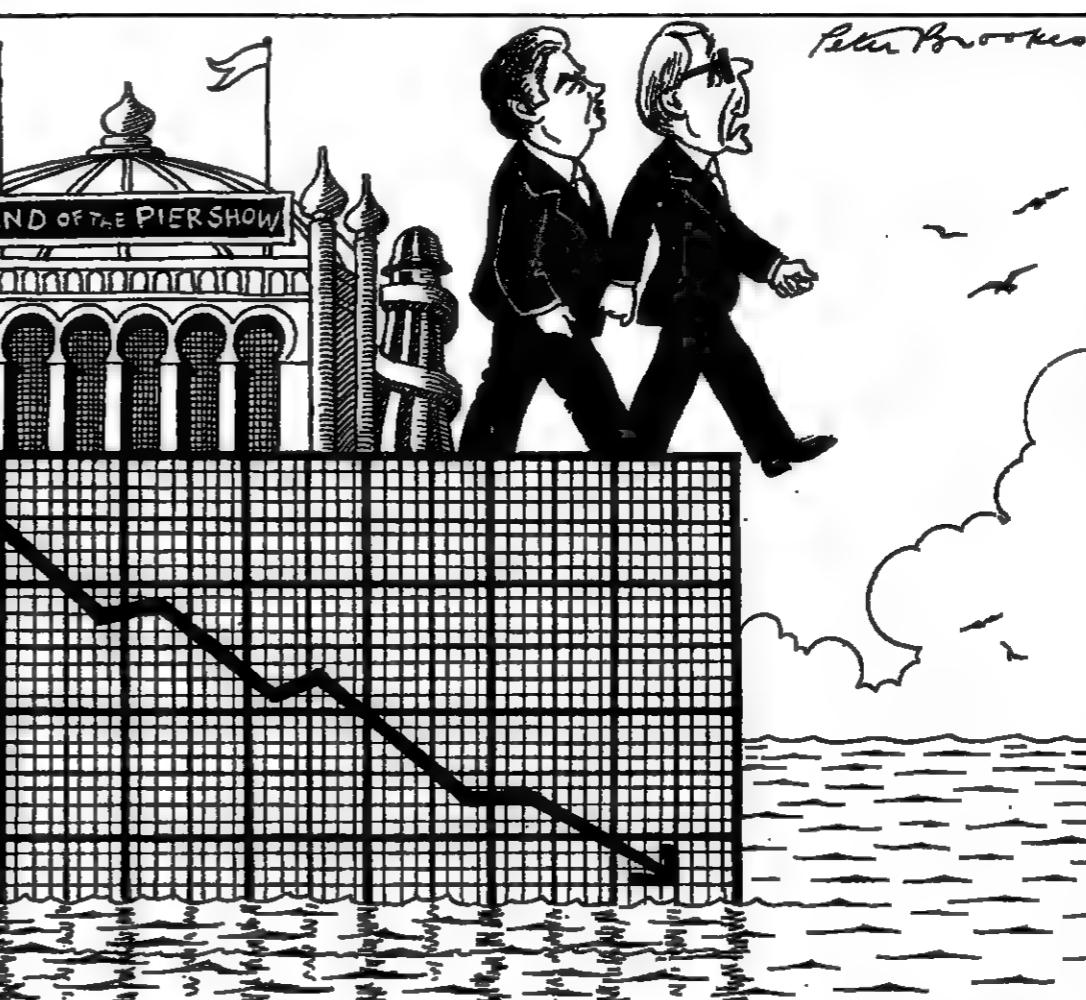
crisis, crisis, crisis, the cliché repeated so often it acquires a sibilant lassitude. But sometimes I think history should replace maths (which has got us nowhere) in the core curriculum. Is this a worse crisis than the three-day week of 1973, than the international

Monetary Fund visit in 1976, than the Falklands invasion in 1982? It is not.

Or take the party conference of 1981, when Margaret Thatcher's leadership faced its greatest threat until she fell eight years later. The war of the wits against the dries reflected a divide that ran through the party right up to the cabinet. Mrs Thatcher's senior colleagues, such as Jim Prior and Francis Pym, were openly dissenting. Poor odds were being offered on her surviving to Christmas that year. She muddled through quite well.

Mr Major's predicament this week is nowhere as dire as was Mrs Thatcher's. Certainly he wobbled inside Admiralty House on Black Wednesday—by some accounts wobbled alarmingly. But no prime minister has lived until he has faced those giddy dwarfs from the Treasury and the Bank of England, all lined up ashed faced to say, "We can no longer control the markets; you must carry the can." It takes a strong man to laugh in their faces and sack the lot of them. Mr Major should know that now.

The prime minister's power requires him only to keep his nerve. He has not a "crisis problem", only a policy problem, or rather two problems. The first is to ratify the wretched Maastricht treaty. He solved that last Thursday. At the now-famous cabinet he wanted no silent acquiescence. He made every member articulate his or her assent to ratification. The reason was that no feasible alternative (apart from referendum) was open to them, given that he



had signed on their behalf and could no longer shelter behind the Danish skirts with any dignity.

Mr Major duly ordered the whip on deck to deliver him his majority, whatever the cost. This they will do. Terrible things will be said. German feelings will be sorely tried. Ratifying the treaty is already opening divisions across Europe so deep, and so genuine, as in my view to make implementation near impossible. But to the Tory party Maastricht is now an order. However many standing ovations Euro-sceptics receive, it has become an infinity advance on the Somme: a test not of intelligence but of leadership. All

else is mutiny. Maastricht will be obeyed.

The prime minister's other, unresolved task is to find a sensible monetary and fiscal policy to replace the defunct one. This they will do. Terrible things will be said. German feelings will be sorely tried. Ratifying the treaty is already opening divisions across Europe so deep, and so genuine, as in my view to make implementation near impossible. But to the Tory party Maastricht is now an order. However many standing ovations Euro-sceptics receive, it has become an infinity advance on the Somme: a test not of intelligence but of leadership. All

overnight merely to lower blood pressure in the money markets. Certainly John Major has taken a media grilling this past month. He is portrayed in Tory as well as Labour newspapers as weak, empty, incompetent, lacking in ideas, a broken-backed Quixote wandering the plains of Europe, with Mr Lamont as his Sancho Panza. The broadsheets have been as bad as the tabloids. Mr Major's cardinal fault is that he reads this rubbish.

Deconstruct this much-vaunted crisis into its component parts and it promptly diminishes in size.

This week's noise is the result of an unavoidable bias in the end of Britain's miserable flirtation with fixed exchange rates and the return of a more autonomous policy.

The bias happens to coincide with a Tory party conference, decision day on Maastricht and Britain's leadership of the European Council of Ministers, a body grossly inflated in importance. But with Maastricht delegated to the whips and the council pushed into the background, the prime minister can at least concentrate on crafting economic recovery and deciding the fate of his Chancellor.

Mr Major is being dismissed as merely a transitional leader, keeping the seat warm for some time waiting in the wings. Mrs Thatcher was described likewise in her early years. Such criticism is easy when the spotlight blazes down only on a politician's weaknesses, not his strengths. Mr Major's weaknesses are oft-rehearsed. He will never be a "strong-leadership Conservative" in the Thatcher/Reagan mould. He does not dominate debate any more than he dominates a room. He lacks the fanaticism of a great leader. He is no orator, being much given to H.L. Mencken's "études in ponderosity". He is dull. But government is a dull business. John Major in two years has scratched four distinctive achievements on his personal escutcheon: poll-tax abolition, the Gulf war, the Maastricht concessions and a general election victory. Each called for skill in managing his cabinet, his party and foreign leaders. In each case he was more than competent. Now he has suffered his first political reverse. It is a big one. But to imply as a result that the man is finished, the roof has fallen in, the wolves are at the door and the Tory party is "in crisis" is plain stupid.

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

I have been thinking about my face. I am not alone in this. A man in Akron, Ohio, has been thinking about my face, too. That is why, this morning, I invite you to join us. Let us all, for 800 words, think about my face. Should you feel that 800 words is a bit more than you wish to think about my face, be assured that by the end of them you will also find yourself thinking about your face, and thus, since a vanity shared is a vanity halved, may well forgive me for banging on about mine.

Let us look at my face together. It has a pretty neutral expression on it, does it not, some would say more neutral than pretty, but we are not here to wonder why, in an age of rapid-response newspaper technology, there's still no art to find the mind's construction in the face: why, that is, my face is not regularly changed to suit the article hanging from its chin. Were I the new Editor of *The Times*, that is exactly what I should innovate, so that readers instantly be put on the *qui vive* for the tone of the words beneath by a face one day cheery, the next glut, now enraged, now quizzical, and so on. Shouldn't be too difficult, the Editor would just keep a few assorted snaps of me in his drawer and, as soon as my copy chattered through the fax, select a mug-shot to suit.

Today, for example, he might have gone for something regal.

Anyway, for the moment, here is this neutral face, and all we have to think about is its size. It is the size of a postage stamp. Were you to see it on an envelope, you

might say, hello, I think I have received a letter from Bulgaria, this must be the 5-stotinki grey (did you know, by the way, that there were 100 stotinki to the leva? What a mystery Bulgaria is), but I cannot think who this neutral-looking dingbat is, could be a trade secretary, could be a dead footballer, unless of course it's their new king, you can never tell with the Balkans, these days.

For once, this scenario of mine is not an idle fancy. I could make it happen. All I have to do is send \$200 and my photograph to an outfit in Akron, Ohio, called Personal Promotions Inc., and they will send me, by return of post, something with which I can post my stamp of my own, ie 20 sheets, of 48 stamps each, with my face (and name) on, professionally serrated and pre-gummed in a choice of three flavours, mint, fruit, or natural. I can then lick me, stick myself beside Her Majesty (since I am not of course legal Royal Mail tender), and pop up both in the post, thinking as I do so, "how much it will improve my standing in the business community, and impress family and friends."

I am sorely tempted. My standing in the business community has never been particularly high, and I have every confidence that it would take an exponential leap upward, once the recipients of my letters had somehow managed to persuade themselves that I was not a clueless sap who could be suckered into sending \$200 to anyone offering to serrate him and coat the back of his skull in raspberry

glue. Similarly, my family and friends would, I know, be knocked out by the thought that they actually knew someone into whose left ear the Queen could be compelled to peer. That some of them might come to the conclusion that what Her Majesty was doing was examining my head in its patent need, I do not for a moment believe.

All that remains for me to do, it would seem, is to work out the sort of expression I should like to have on my stamp, and pose for the snapshot accordingly. But it is not quite as easy as that: if I may return to my earlier observations, why choose but one expression when several might be called for? For my bank manager, say, a jutting jaw and a confident eye could be just the ticket, whereas Christmas cards would seem to demand a cheery grin and a funny hat; though this would clearly not be the thing at all for a complaint to the Gas Board, or a condolence note to someone whose dog had just run under a bus.

I should think a thousand bucks would cover it. That would bring me five bundles of 960 stamps each, once I have popped into the nearest booth and struck my assorted poses. Alternatively, I could simply strike a different pose altogether and stick the photograph on a letter to Akron informing them that I shall not be doing anything with their wonderful offer. I have not yet arrived, mind, at the ideal expression for conveying what I think they should do with it, but I'm working on it.

Lamont eschews the E-word

SSH. Don't mention the Exchange Rate Mechanism. Or even European and monetary union. Especially if you are the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It seems that after the drama of Black Wednesday Norman Lamont cannot bring himself even to utter the fateful acronym, ERM.

Tonight in Brighton Lamont delivers the annual lecture to the Conservative Political Centre, under the title, *Europe: A Community not a Super State*. "He may tinker further but the omissions are astonishing," says one observer who has seen the text. "There is no mention of the ERM and scant attention to EMU. It is remarkably clever and diplomatic." In the course of the 60 minute address, EMU, in fact, is referred to in just two sentences.

That Lamont can make a speech about the future of Europe without mentioning the most contentious elements of European union will further reinforce the suspicion that the Chancellor is a Euro-sceptic and that if anyone should carry the can for the failed policy it is Douglas Hurd rather than Lamont.

Such a view is given further credence by news of a deep split among the ranks of the special advisers who serve the Cabinet. Last week they met to discuss how the subject of Europe should be handled at the party conference. The meeting ended with a bad tempered stand-up row between Maurice Fraser, Hurd's special adviser and a confessed Euro-sceptic, and Jeremy Mayhew, who is special adviser to Peter Lilley and is known to be close to Lamont. "There was blood on the carpet, to say the least," says another special

adviser who witnessed the row. "If this is what is going on in cabinet there is no hope for us at all."

Backroom boys

JOHN Major's vision of a classless society does not extend to hotel accommodation. While Major is living in style at the £1,000-a-night presidential suite at the Grand Hotel, Tory Central Office has been forced to cut back on the lifestyle of its staff in Brighton. Major's suite boasts five elegantly furnished rooms, including a master suite with a four-poster bed, dining room and sitting room. Party workers are less lucky. Their number has been cut by half because of the parlous state of the party's finances. But while Tory MPs may be falling out with each other in public, the Central Office apparatchiks are getting on better than ever. The economy drive has forced them to share £50-a-night hotel rooms further down the seafront.

With timing worthy of Dario Fo, the Post Office has chosen next week to launch its new stamp to celebrate the single European market. The single 24p stamp has been designed by David Hockney and shows a yellow star on an ultramarine background. The stamp will be launched at the 1853 Gallery in Bradford, which is hosting an exhibition of Hockney's work.

himself will not be present but his 92-year-old mother Laura, his brother Paul, his sister Margaret and the family dog Barney, all of whom live in the area will put in an appearance. "I don't think we are inviting many Europeans but we will have lots of people," says a spokeswoman for the Post Office.

GALLERY 1
HOCKNEY

The frighteners
HAVING raised more than £1,200 from the platform of the Tory Party conference last year Jeffrey Archer, now Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, has stepped down from the role. Tim Rice, following his former musical partner Andrew Lloyd-Webber in championing the Tory cause, is stepping into Archer's shoes for the first time.

It will be Rice's second public outing in Tory colours; his first was to host a "John Major meets the people" event during the general election. Rice, who has never spoken to the Tory conference before, is understandably nervous about performing as the prime minister's warm-up act and has turned to Archer for help. "I was happy to let Tim take over. It is great fun. But it



LAMONT'S LAST STAND

Tomorrow morning, when he addresses the Conservative Party conference in Brighton, Norman Lamont has an excellent chance to save his job. He can also save the jobs of many thousands of his fellow citizens. He may even rescue some of his reputation.

With such inducements before him, Mr Lamont ought to be able to announce a new economic policy to replace the fixed exchange rate strategy that failed three weeks ago. If Mr Lamont is planning immediate changes, preparing a cut in interest rates and a credible programme to reduce public borrowing and spending, he deserves to continue as Chancellor. If, however, he feels unable to lead the country in a new direction, he should be preparing to resign.

There is no need for the Chancellor to announce the details of his new monetary targets or to explain exactly which public spending programmes will be cut. What Britain needs to hear tomorrow is a clear statement of objectives, and the means for achieving them. The main objectives must be to stimulate an early recovery from the recession and to ensure that recovery does not provoke a new bout of inflation.

There should be no question of making either recovery or price stability the "overriding objective". If the Chancellor does not think that both can be attempted at once, if he insists that the government must have an "absolute" commitment to fighting inflation, he cannot stay in office. After September 16, nobody is going to believe that one of his objectives is "absolute".

The means of achieving these objectives should be equally clear. The new economic policy should have four main components. Interest rates must be set in accordance with the needs of the domestic economy, and the level of sterling. With interest rates redirected to stimulating the economy, and the main burden of anti-inflation policy must fall on government decisions about public borrowing and spending.

Monetary targets must also be announced to offer some reassurance against gross

policy misjudgments. But the Chancellor must acknowledge publicly that no single monetary indicator is ever going to be a foolproof guide through the constantly changing complexities of economic events.

To demonstrate the seriousness of its commitment to fighting inflation, the government should impose a freeze on public sector pay. That would make far more impression on the financial markets and private employers than a hundred monetary targets and promises to stabilise sterling.

The Chancellor could easily make such a statement of principles tomorrow, with no need for further Treasury briefings and no danger of putting the delegates in Brighton to sleep. The concept at the heart of the package — that a domestically-oriented policy of low interest rates should be balanced by the anti-inflationary effect of tight fiscal targets — almost certainly accords with Mr Lamont's personal instincts.

But on its own a statement would not be enough. Government credibility is weak, and there is no reason why the public should believe mere promises of lower interest rates in exchange for public spending curbs. Business and consumer confidence have collapsed as a result of the devaluation. His own fellow Cabinet ministers have sabotaged the Chancellor's efforts to explain the potential benefits of a lower pound. The Treasury argues that the fall in the exchange rate has been equivalent to a monetary easing, but this benefit has probably been more offset by waning confidence.

With ministers warning that interest rates may even have to rise to defend sterling, mere words from the Chancellor would make little impression on the public, the business community or the financial markets. Mr Lamont must show that he still has the power to make decisions, and that the Prime Minister backs him against the counsels of despair from Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke. There is one way he can do this: by quickly announcing another cut in interest rates. If Mr Lamont lacks either the confidence or the authority to do that, he should recognise his failings and go.

THE TORY SPLIT

There seemed a danger yesterday that Lord Tebbit would win himself a longer ovation at the Tory party conference than John Major will receive on Friday. If the Conservative leadership needed any proof of the strength of opinion against Maastricht among its members, the reception accorded to Lord Tebbit provided it. It was the former chairman who had his arms in the air like an American presidential candidate; it was the current prime minister, and his grey eminence, Douglas Hurd, who sat on the platform like men drained.

Yesterday's rumbunctious debate recalled the great Labour and Liberal party rows over nuclear disarmament. Shout of "Rubbish!" (and worse) greeted many speakers, feet were drummed on the floor and even the foreign secretary was heckled. The mere announcement that a representative was to speak in favour of the motion won a collective hiss from the floor. If the matter had not been so serious, the debate could have been enjoyed as pantomime.

The Tories, mirroring the whole country, are given right down the middle over Europe. If the sceptics were perhaps marginally outnumbered by those standing behind the government, they made up for it by the strength of their feeling. The loudest cheers from the floor greeted calls not to ratify Maastricht, but to hold a referendum and for the government to allow a free vote on the bill.

Mr Major is lucky that many of his fiercest critics, including his predecessor and Lord Tebbit, are now ensconced in the Lords. But yesterday Kenneth Baker set out his anti-Maastricht stall at a fringe meeting. He hinted that he will vote against the bill, thus offering himself as leader of the rebels. The debate, he said, was not between pro- and anti-Europeans, but between those who want Europe at any price and those who want Europe at the right price.

THE TENTH PLANET

The discovery of a new planet puts earthlings and their planetary concerns in their places. As planets go, the one that has just swum into the ken of watchers of the skies at the University of Hawaii, is not much to write home to Galileo about. It has a diameter of only the distance from London to Liverpool, when the M6 is not coned off.

It is dark with an eternal permafrost colder than anything imaginable on Earth, lying in cold storage in the top drawer of the solar system's deep freeze. Its colour appears reddish to the astronomical instruments, suggesting that its surface is rich with the primordial organic matter. It revolves around the sun only once every 262 years. Its brightness is 6 million times fainter than anything that can be seen with the naked eye, so that it can be observed only by megatelescope at just the precise moment when the Moon is full. This is not so much a planet as a twinkling of a huge lens, or, in the jargon of the trade, a planetesimal.

Nevertheless, for astronomers if not for Keatsian sky romantics, this is the most exciting celestial discovery since Pluto in 1930, or the sighting in 1801 of the first member of the asteroid belt, the thousands of little planets between Mars and Jupiter.

This is not Planet X, the tenth planet that is implied by irregularities in the orbits of the other nine. But, invisible to laymen though it is, floating 6,000 million kilometres away in space, this is the most distant object in the solar system yet to be identified by man. There is a good bet that it is the first of a belt

of icy little planets, which the Dutchman, the late Gerard Kuiper, predicted would be found out there, beyond Pluto, as the debris from the birth of the universe, when a disk of gas and dust condensed to form the sun and the planets. One of the sighters of the new planet suggests that it may be one of the primordial building blocks of the planets; that would be real neat.

Astronomy of the past decade has been more than neat: it is breathtaking. At present the new planet is named 1992 QB1, though its discoverers want to call it Smiley, after the elusive master spy in John le Carré's thrillers whom they were discussing at the time it swam into view.

The naming of planets is a mystical business. The nine seen so far have been named after the mythical gods and goddesses of Greece and Rome. When Herschel discovered his planet, he named it Georgium Sidus, in honour of George III. It soon became Uranus of problematic pronunciation. The first asteroid to be discovered was named for Ceres, after the patron saint of Italy.

If there are indeed, as supposed by astronomers, thousands of little planets in this long-suspected but only just discovered Kuiper Belt, the fallout from the beginning of the universe, there may not be enough deities even from terrestrial polytheism to supply names for them all. So there will be a chance of immortality up towards the stars for many a stealthy character from fact and fiction, in the starsteps of Arethusa.

UK 'blind eye' to Azeri racism

From Lord Avebury and others

Sir, Your report (October 5) on the poll showing that 68 per cent of the British public would vote "against ratification of Maastricht" begs the vital questions of who knows what the treaty contains and to what extent that knowledge may affect a "yes" or "no" verdict.

Unless polls are used to shed some light on why people have their various opinions, as well as on what those opinions are, and who holds them, they may function as "loose cannons" amidst the political process. The same point was made by your correspondent Sir John Killik (September 22), after the French referendum. I hope your next poll will take note.

Yours sincerely,
MALLORY WOBER,
Flat c. 17 Lancaster Grove, NW3.
October 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XX Telephone 071-782 5000

Euro-sceptics and the Conservative policy divide

From Dr J. M. Woher

Sir, Your report (October 5) on the poll showing that 68 per cent of the British public would vote "against ratification of Maastricht" begs the vital questions of who knows what the treaty contains and to what extent that knowledge may affect a "yes" or "no" verdict.

We are deeply concerned, therefore, to learn that the president of the Board of Trade, Mr Michael Heseltine, recently took a high-level business delegation to Baku where BP have opened an office (report, Business News, October 1). In a press statement about his trip, Mr Heseltine said: "I want to see the UK play a leading role in assisting the development of the Azeri economy..."

The Azerbaijan government is actively engaged in ethnic cleansing of the Armenian enclave of Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia itself; it brutally deported villagers from Nagorno Karabakh last year; it used GRAD multiple rocket launchers, and recently SU25 and MiG fighter bombers, against Armenian civilians. In this case, however, the UK government appears to be giving aid and comfort to the racist oppressors. British support of the Azeri government amounts to tacit acceptance of its inhuman policies, and will encourage it to continue mass-murdering Armenians, knowing it is immune from criticism because we want Azeri business. This could encourage other aggressors to grab territory when they see that, for Britain, valuable trade takes precedence over human rights.

True British interests are never served by turning a blind eye to oppression and cruelty.

Yours faithfully,
AVEBURY (Chairman, Parliamentary Human Rights Group),
CAROLINE COX,
DAVID ATKINSON,
Palace of Westminster.
October 2.

These include taxation, monetary policy and coinage, education, home affairs, immigration and visas, judicial policy, health and social affairs, industrial competition, R & D, commercial and regional policies, foreign and security affairs, Third World aid, energy policy and consumer affairs.

Furthermore, the Maastricht small print reveals that the Community's decision-making power is stacked in favour of the Commission, most of whose proposals may be agreed by a mere majority vote in the Council of Ministers, but may only be amended by unanimity.

Some of the most far-reaching yet least-discussed aspects of the treaty are the articles which establish "European citizenship", and which oblige member states to "refrain from any action which is contrary to the interest of the Union".

At best, the Maastricht treaty is a perverse diversion from the critical choices which the government has yet to face with regard to the economy and the Gatt world trade talks, the successful conclusion of which must be the top priority for a Britain in deep housekeeping.

The consultants' report is thorough and constructive and we shall implement it. Their conclusions, however, show more understanding of the purposes of the Royal Ballet and the Royal Opera than does your leader, "Operatic fantasy" (October 2).

The fact that big changes have been "well aired in the press" does not automatically validate them. There is no suggestion either in Price Waterhouse or Lady Warnock's appraisal that we should relinquish our orchestra, chorus and corps de ballet and perform on a seasonal basis only.

Such measures might well satisfy market economics, but they have little to do with the proper stewardship of the Royal Opera House. If introduced they would dismantle the means by which our companies have earned their world-wide reputation and brought credit to this country. The effect of your prescriptions on the Royal Ballet would be to destroy it.

Efficiency in management does not mean losing sight of the artistic purposes and needs of the companies and we do not intend to do so.

We share with you, Sir, a strong desire to see more affordable seat prices at Covent Garden. Disappointingly, Lady Warnock's appraisal does not advocate such a policy. Broadcasting and external performances are excellent in themselves, but they should not be treated as a substitute for greater accessibility in the Opera House.

That must remain one of our principal aims, together with maximum efficiency in the use of resources and the maintenance of the artistic standards which both reports acknowledge.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS STIRLING,
Chairman, Royal Opera House,
Covent Garden, WC2.
October 5.

From Mr Adam Westoby

Sir, I do not pretend to understand the proper distribution of noughts in public support for the arts, but pending Covent Garden's £250 million redevelopment in 1997, perhaps £2,000 or so could be earmarked for a retracting wheelchair lift at the Floral Street entrance. It could be installed in an afternoon.

Yours faithfully,
ADAM WESTOBY
(Member), London Wheelchair Access Committee,
75 Chambers Lane, NW10.
October 3.

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Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

recession. At worst, it represents a source of internal and external conflict which not only has isolated Britain but has led to the worst relations with our Community partners in recent memory.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ROBERTSON
(Co-ordinator),
CHRISTOPHER MONCKTON
(Member),
The Bruges Group,
63 Duke Street, W1.
October 1.

From Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark

Sir, As an MP for over 13 years in the Conservative cause, who was always willing to make a stand on what I considered vital issues, I appreciate the stand that some members are taking on the Common Market problem; but I have to say that some of their language is not only hyperbole but damaging to a sensible debate.

Anybody, not just Conservatives, should be a sceptic about great power being given to any organisation — not least to Brussels. That is one thing: Euro-phobia is different altogether, and it is not frankly sustainable in a modern world.

John Major has shown that he is as much a sceptic as any of us and is fighting sensibly for sensible changes; I must say to my former Conservative colleagues that I would rather fight in the jungle alongside him than any alternative leader.

Knowing the prime minister as I do, I regard it as unlikely that he would stay just to retain power. He is not that kind of man or leader, and if he were I believe that a Conservative government would fall with him. What would then take place would make the Euro-phobes have something really to howl about — and the rest of us.

I urge them not to sink their principles, for there is no need, nor to sink the party and the country for a mess of portage.

Your obedient servant,
ANTHONY BEAUMONT-DARK,
124 Lady Byron Lane,
Soham, Soham, West Midlands.
September 30.

From Mr Ian McGeoch

Sir, With respect to Lord Cobbold (letter, October 5) I wish to question the wisdom of seeking to redivide the nation, politically, into "European" and "nationalist" parties. We are facing a crisis just as severe as, and not altogether different in character from that of the early 1930s. Then, our leaders sought to unite rather than divide the country. Our unique political process served to provide a national government which, though not particularly talented, was strong enough to retain the consent of the governed to severe measures of economic restraint.

At best, the Maastricht treaty is a perverse diversion from the critical choices which the government has yet to face with regard to the economy and the Gatt world trade talks, the successful conclusion of which must be the top priority for a Britain in deep housekeeping.

The comments made by representatives of chief police officers appear to go well beyond their own remit, while ducking their responsibilities to other agencies. Information held by the police about the previous records of offenders should, properly, be made available to all those, including probation officers, who may legitimately use it to contribute to the judicial process.

It is not the private property of the police services. Probation officers cannot be expected to provide reports to the courts about the safe resettlement of offenders in the community without access to this information.

Sources quoted in your report seem anxious to comment, on behalf of probation services, about shortage of resources and delays caused by the new demands made upon us. The truth is that additional funds have

been provided for work created by the act and we hope that promises of further expansion in the next two years will not be affected adversely by current economic problems. The success of the act, and the cost-effectiveness of the criminal justice system, could be at stake if these promises are not met.

Dir predictions about the effect of industrial action, threatened by the National Association of Probation Officers, are also exaggerated. At worst, this action would prevent introduction of the new provisions of the act. If pre-sentence reports were not prepared, offenders would be sent into custody instead of receiving community sentences.

These negative reactions to the act, while disappointing, are predictable. Radical change is needed to reduce the costly and, sometimes, downright dangerous effects of our present dependence on custodial sentences. Such major changes are usually difficult and, therefore, unwelcome. The squeals of protest may be a clear signal that this act could make a difference.

Yours sincerely,
JENNY ROBERTS, Chair,
Association of Chief Officers of Probation,
3-4 Shaw Street, Worcester.
October 2.

From Mr John Suchet

Sir, Last June my wife and I drove from London to Bordeaux. Between London and Dover (M25 and M2, around 90 miles) we were held up 11 times by motorway repair works. (When, if that's that many, you do count, believe me.) We missed our ferry. Between Calais and Bordeaux (A1 and A10, over 400 miles) there was not a single hold-up, not a single cone.

The difference, of course: the English leg of the journey was free. The French leg cost around £30 in tolls. It seems to me you get what you pay for.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SUCHET,
Chiltern Court,
Baker Street, NW1.
October 1.

From Ms Sally Smith

Sir, What a heart-rending letter from Mr Stephen Gratwick, QC (September 29) about the "severe financial penalty" judges are suffering. I appreciate that with between 564,064 and £108,940 per annum it must be difficult to make ends meet. If this leads to judges having to resort to bribery, as Mr Gratwick warns might happen, we have nobody to blame but ourselves for being so "parsimonious".

Yours sincerely,
SALLY SMITH,
61 Outwoods Drive,
Loughborough, Leicestershire.
October 1.

From Mr D. P. Coleman

Sir, You do not see road works in France because the French simply close the road and send you miles (kilometres?) out of your way with a shrug of the shoulders and a pair of route barrières and déviation signs. Not content with that they allow hordes of tractors (we counted over 25 in 100 miles) on main roads as a further aggravation. Bring back the cones!

Yours faithfully,
D. P. COLEMAN,
9 Elm Road, Wade Court,
Havant, Hampshire.
October 1.



COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
October 6: The Queen was represented by the Baroness Trumpington, Baroness in Waiting, at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Sir John Barnes, former Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at The Hague, which was held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, this morning.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 6: The Princess Royal this morning opened the International Public Works Conference and Exhibition at the National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Warwickshire (the Viscount Davenport).

Her Royal Highness, President, National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs, afterwards attended a Reception at the Young Farmers' Club Centre, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park.

The Princess Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, this afternoon attended a Multi-Disciplinary Conference 'Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities' at the Royal Court Hotel, Kensington, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the West Midlands (the Earl of Ayleford).

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, afterwards visited J. and J. Cash Limited, Coventry.

Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 6: The Princess of Wales this morning received the Minister for Overseas Development (the Baroness Chalker of Wallasey) at Kensington Palace.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Worshipful Company of Leatherellers at 15 St Helen's Place, London EC3, and unveiled a portrait commissioned for HMS Cornwall.

Mr Patrick Jephcott was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 6: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the King Mahendra UK Trust for Nature Conservation today received Sir Arthur Norman on relinquishing the appointment as Chairman of the Trust and Field Marshal Sir John Chapple on assuming the appointment.

The Duchess of Gloucester today visited Merseyside and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Mr Henry Cotton).

Her Royal Highness opened Tower Hill Enterprise Centre, Shewings Lane, Kirby and afterwards visited Grange Court Sheltered Housing Scheme, Grange Road, Waverton. Later the Duchess of Gloucester opened the new school, Phoenix Junior and Infant School, Hollies Road, Halewood. Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.



From then to now: pupils at New Hall convent school in Chelmsford, Essex, which is celebrating its 350th anniversary, model the garb of their predecessors. Anna Starling, 12, left, and Zulika Joseph, 16, wear uniforms and Joanna Alston, 14, wears a sister's habit, all from the nineteenth century

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend the commissioning ceremony of the Birkhill steam engine at the Grampian Transport Museum, Alford, Aberdeenshire, at 10.30.

The Princess of Wales will open Kevin Ryan Court, Head S.O. Davies, Georgetown, Merthyr Tydfil, at 11.45; will open the continuing care centre for the terminally ill at the former Pontypridd Cottage Hospital at 1.15.

As Patron of The Trust for Sick Children in Wales, the Princess will open the children's centre at East Glamorgan District Hospital at 2.40.

The Princess Royal, as Chancellor of London University, will attend the inauguration of the Convex super-computing service at the London University Computer Centre at 10.30; will attend the GAP—International Projects for Youth Exchange luncheon at the House of Lords at 12.30 to mark its 20th anniversary; and, as Patron of the British Executive Service Overseas, will attend the annual meeting at DTI Conference Hall, Kingsgate House, Victoria Street, at 3.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of the National Asthma Campaign, will meet branch members and volunteers at the campaign's headquarters at Providence Place, N1, at 3.00.

As Patron of the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths (Cot Death Research and Support), the Duchess will attend the International Cot Death Bazaar at the Commonwealth Institute at 7.00 in aid of the foundation.

Service dinner

Colonels Commandant Royal Artillery

General Sir Martin Farndale, Master Gunner, St James's Park, presided at the annual dinner of the Colonels Commandant Royal Regiment of Artillery held last night at the Royal Artillery Mess, Woolwich.

Mr Patrick Jephcott was in attendance.

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OBITUARIES

BILL O'REILLY

Bill "Tiger" O'Reilly, Australian spin bowler who took 144 test wickets, died on October 5 in Sydney aged 86. He was born in New South Wales on December 20, 1905.

BILL O'Reilly was described by Sir Donald Bradman as the best bowler he ever faced, as singular a compliment as can ever have been paid by one cricketer to another. O'Reilly was also a man of large proportions, both physically and in terms of personality. His sobriquet was "Tiger" and tigerish he was, whether bowling his leg breaks and googlies or standing up for those things which he deemed to be best in life and most precious about the game of cricket.

Like his friend and bowling partner, Clarrie Grimmett, O'Reilly was not remotely athletic, and he owed little or nothing to special coaching. Born at White Cliffs, a lonely outpost in western New South Wales, he was the son of a schoolmaster, a profession which he was to follow himself until he took to writing about cricket. It was not until he moved to Sydney in his late teens that he played much cricket, and he was 26 by the time he won a regular place first in the North Sydney grade team and then, almost immediately, in the New South Wales state side.

Perhaps because of his size — he was 6 ft 3ins tall and broad with it — he tried to bowl fast as a schoolboy; but he was erratic enough at that to change to a slower pace in the search for greater accuracy and to become the bowler Australia's opponents feared most of all in the 1930s. His long fingers, the first two wrapped round the ball, the others pressed against the palm of his hand, helped

to make him the spinner he was, and his demeanour was consistently hostile. At times, after a long spell, he wore the skin off the top knuckle of his third finger, which he used for developing the leg spin.

When O'Reilly and Bradman first played against each other, in up-country cricket, Bradman formed no great opinion of him. Even after his metamorphosis into a spinner efforts were made to change O'Reilly's action. After a bounding, flailing, seemingly uncoordinated approach to the crease, he stooped in the delivery stride and showed more of his chest to the batsman than pleased the purists. But that was the way he wanted it, and batsmen found the almost grotesque contortions with which they were confronted scarcely less disconcerting than the pace at which O'Reilly's leg break came through the air or the bounce which his googlie generated off the pitch.

Having played once, unsuccessfully, for New South Wales in 1927-28 he was not heard of again until the Australian summer of 1931-32, whereupon he stormed upon the scene. His first Test match for Australia, their fourth against South Africa that season, was only his sixth first-class match, and by the time Grimmett had claimed 14 wickets there were not many left for O'Reilly. However, it was the start of a slow bowling partnership to compare with any in the history of the game. More than 30 years later O'Reilly and Grimmett were still together, Grimmett half the size of his old brother-in-arms, sitting next to each other in the press boxes of Australia.

O'Reilly played in four series (19 Test matches) against England, in which he took 102 wickets at 25.36 a



In the first of them, the body-line series of 1932-33, he was much Australia's most successful bowler. As importantly, this was a campaign which left all Australians a burning desire for revenge, which none felt more deeply than O'Reilly and his erstwhile "cobbler" Jack Fingleton.

O'Reilly's first chance of exacting it came in England in 1934 when his 28 wickets contributed as much as Bradman's phenomenal batting to Australia's recovery of the Ashes.

England's counterpart to Bradman was Walter Hammond, and the bowler in the world who

unsent him more than any other was O'Reilly. Mainly by attacking Hammond on and around his off-stump O'Reilly dismissed him ten times in the 19 Test matches that they played against each other. It was England's diminutive left-handers, Maurice Leyland and Eddie Paynter, whom O'Reilly found most difficult to bowl against.

At Headingly in 1934 O'Reilly dismissed C. F. Walters, R. E. S. Wyatt and Hammond in one over. By contrast, at the Oval in 1938, where England scored 903 for 7 declared, he appealed for a gun with which to shoot the groundsman. O'Reilly's figures in England's only innings on that occasion were 85-26-36-8.

By the end of the second world war he was rising forty, and although he took 8 for 33 in his only Test match after that — against New Zealand at Wellington — it was to be his last first-class appearance. He had taken 144 wickets (average 22.49) in 27 Test matches and 774 wickets (average 16.60) in his whole career. He had to be hidden in the field, not an easy business, and his top score in 1936 first-class innings was a blustery 36 not out.

In retirement he became known as an uncompromising defender of the old cricketing faith. His daily offerings in the *Sydney Morning Herald* were as forthright as his bowling. He viewed with a deadly hatred the Packer revolution and was equally intolerant of pyjama cricket. He was widely popular, occasionally cantankerous, instinctively witty, sometimes fierce and invariably defiant. In the end only the amputation of a leg seriously undermined his spirit.

APPRECIATIONS

Allen Percival

WITH the death of Allen Percival (obituary, September 26), the profession of music therapy has lost one of its most devoted advocates, friends and supporters. He was a friend of mine since the early days of our post-graduate training course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London.

In 1968 Allen, as principal of the Guildhall, had the vision to invite Juliette Albin to set up the first such course in this country. Such vision was a quality that touched all areas of his musical life, including his work as teacher, publisher, conductor and administrator.

Allen Percival was no musical snob, relishing beautiful moments in a song by Coward, an ensemble by Mozart or a piece of early keyboard music. He was always encouraging with his musical comments, giving the kind of attentive support to colleagues and students that showed deep and genuine concern.

His gifts as an administrator were impeccable, giving a great deal of time and energy to any project with which he was involved. He served the British Society for Music Therapy for many years as an honorary advisor and was a highly respected member of MusicSpace's Council of Management. Allen was instrumental in helping MusicSpace to set up a national development strategy so that a network of music therapy centres could develop nationwide.



His commitment to music therapy became more central to his life with his recent marriage to a leading figure in the field, Margaret Pickett. The combined talents of the Percivals gave pleasure to many people including the residents of Charlton Hawthorne where they decided to live.

Arranging and composing music for the village pantomime was a musical task taken up with typical gusto and enthusiasm, each new song being previewed with delicious wit and natural musicality.

We in the profession of music therapy shall miss him dearly. His was a unique yet modest voice and one that will continue to inspire his many devoted friends and colleagues.

Dr Leslie Bunt
Director,
The MusicSpace Trust

Morris

Carnovsky

elderly characters in modern pieces by Clifford Odets.

Carnovsky never looked "made up" as is so often the case with young actors sporting crepe hair and lines on face for his versatile depictions of the aged grandfather in *Awake and Sing*; the father, whose son refuses to be a musician and becomes a boxer instead, in *Golden Boy*, as well as the financially hard-pressed dentist, with the shrewish wife and the youthful and attractive dental receptionist, in *Rocket to the Moon*.

It was in this latter piece that I saw Carnovsky shortly before the war at the Belasco Theatre on Broadway in Clurman's 1938 production of what still lingers in my memory as being Odets's most Chekovian piece: one that I later realised my ambition to revive over here in London when I co-presented (with Jack Hyton) and directed in the West End at the St Martin's Theatre in 1957 — the war came in between — with Ronald Simpson in the Carnovsky role and Yolande Donlan as the only female fatale in the cast.

The play itself had as mixed a press in London as it had had in New York, but the first night brought me a cable of good wishes from, among others in the original cast, Carnovsky himself.

Peter Cotes

ON THIS DAY OCT 7 1933

This sparkling dramatization of James Laver's novel has not only Cole Porter's music and the slyish casting of Gertrude Lawrence but also the brilliant costumes and scenery of Doris Zinkeisen.

Adelphi Theatre

"NYMPH ERANT"

By Romeo Brent, from the novel by James Laver; lyrics and music by Cole Porter; scenery and costumes designed by Doris Zinkeisen.

Evangeline dances through Europe now with one partner, now with another, but the tale of her wanderings is much less scandalous than readers of Mr Laver's amusing chronicle might suppose. For in these days, it seems, the heroine of a musical piece cannot afford to take her amatory adventures very seriously. If she has at all, it must be merely to satisfy her desire to go about the world and see the sights. She is the pivot on which all the giddy scenes turn.

Evangeline must be the first heroine in this kind who can find nobody to love her. Admirers there are in plenty, but to them she is no more than an attractive business speculation. And every admirer is a fresh spectacle.

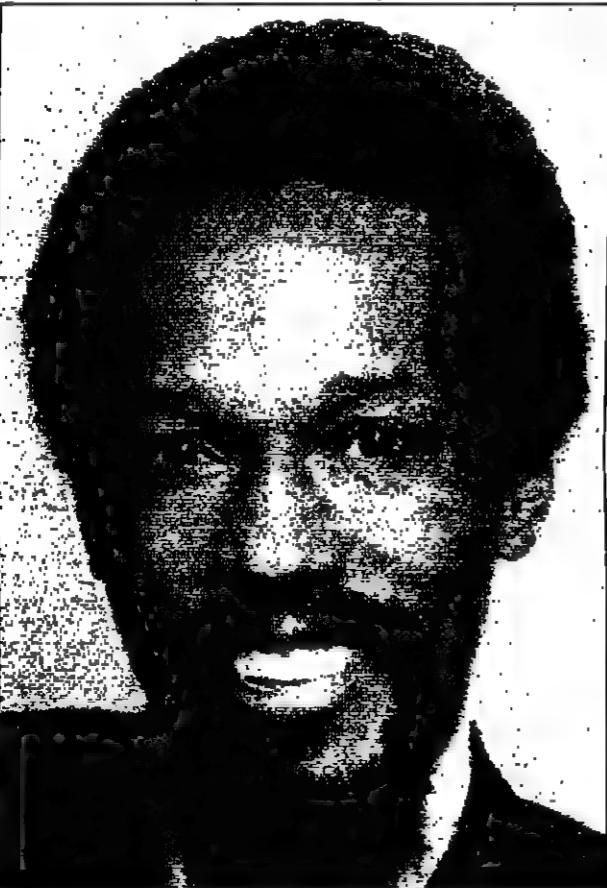
The French impresario, the Russian violinist (though he loves the nymph well enough to propose that she should die in his arms), the Count of the Holy Roman Empire, the Greek slave trader — these are not the sort of admirers we need. Mr. Morton Selen's *roue* is so good as to merit more employment. The spectacle is enhanced and diversified by Eve's graceful contortionism (if that be not a contradiction in terms), and the dancing in various European stiles of Mr. Cochran's Young Ladies. Mr. Cole Porter's lyrics are pointed, and the music has style. But it is Miss Lawrence who carries the spectacle.

M.R. H. L. MENCKEN
From our own correspondent
NEW YORK Oct 6

Mr. H. L. Mencken announced today that he was about to give up the editorship of the *American Mercury* after a service of 10 years in order to have more time to write books and edit the *Baltimore Evening Sun*.

[H.L. Mencken (1880-1956) was one of the most controversial American authors and critics of his day.]

EDDIE KENDRICKS



Eddie Kendricks, American high tenor who achieved fame as the original lead singer with the Temptations vocal group in the 1960s, died of lung cancer in Birmingham, Alabama on October 5 aged 52. He was born in Union Springs, Alabama, on December 17, 1939.

WITH the exception of the Supremes, the Temptations were the most successful of the black harmony groups to emerge from the Motown stable. The group had its first No. 1 hit with "My Girl" in 1965, followed in the same year by "It's Growing" and "Since I Lost My Baby".

Like many black artists of his period, Eddie Kendricks grew up poor in Alabama and decided to go north to seek his fortune. Together with a baritone friend, Paul Williams, he scraped up enough money to get to Cleveland, Ohio, where they could stay with relatives. It was while singing there with a group called the Cavaliers that the pair met an agent who suggested they move to Detroit, which was rapidly becoming the hub of the pop music industry.

The move proved crucial. In Detroit, Kendricks and Williams met Otis Williams, another baritone, Eldridge Bryant, high tenor, and Melvin Franklin, bass. The five joined together to form the Primes quintet, which quickly

gained a loyal following among local fans.

As the Primes they were signed up by the Motown organisation in 1960, and the group's name was changed to the Temptations soon afterwards. Bryant, who seemed to

be more interested in the ladies than his work quickly dropped out and was replaced by David Ruffin, another high tenor. For several years success eluded them. Then, in 1965, the turning point came with their recording of "My Girl".

Archaeology

Zimbabwe puts its heritage on show

By NORMAN HAMMOND

JAPAN, Sweden and Germany are to donate money and equipment to help Zimbabwe to develop the cultural and tourism potential of its archaeological sites. The resources will help to start "The Heritage of Zimbabwe", a master plan for conservation and development launched at a recent conference for donors in Harare.

The Japanese ambassador, Misius Iijima, has announced that 2.5 tons of equipment would be given for the survey and conservation of Great Zimbabwe, the most spectacular site in southern Africa. The high-walled enclosures, their origins once considered a great mystery, are now known to be a grandiose stadium, with historic buildings such as a Jesuit mission and Old Bulawayo. Peter Addyman, President of the Council for British Archaeology, told the conference: "Even the most superficial look at some regions of Zimbabwe shows that there is virtually continuous archaeological landscapes."

A reconstructed nineteenth-century Shona village is planned as a "living museum" next to the ruins of Great Zimbabwe, while Lobengula's capital at Old Bulawayo should serve the types of food and drink that the Matabele would have consumed in the 1890s.

The scheme developed by the National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe (NMMZ), also proposes that tourists should be able to exchange modern currency for Victorian trade goods, and then use these to buy curios and refreshments. Staff should wear traditional dress — modified if necessary for the sake of propriety.

While Germany and Sweden are donating money, the British Council plans to fund students to postgraduate archaeology courses in the UK.

Mr Addyman said there was a threat to sites from indiscriminate tourism and called for careful development.

There are numerous ruins and rock art sites, as well as

Memorial service

Sir John Barnes

The Queen was represented by Baroness Trumpington at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir John Barnes held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. Canon Donald Gray officiated and the Right Revd Lord Coggan led the prayers. Mr Anthony Barnes and Mr Simon Barnes, sons, read the lessons. Sir John Thomas gave an address.

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was represented by Sir David Muirhead and the Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service by Sir John Margesson. Among others present were Sir Richard Parsons, Lady Archibald and Lady Sarah, Sir John Rodger and Lady Hibbert, Sir Bernard Ledwidge (representing Anglo-Israel Association), Sir Frederick Mason, Lady Helen, Sir John Hume, Sir David Orr, Sir Douglas Dods-Parker, Sir Paul Osmond, Sir Derek Day (representing the government), Hon. Philip Collier, Col. Sir Leslie Dore, Mr S. Watson (headmaster), Sir William and Lady Hayes, Dame Patricia Evans (representing the directing staff, International Institute for Strategic Studies), Mr Barry Price and Mrs Shirley Weston (of the Netherlands Society), Mr Stanley Nye (chairman, Sir Samuel Hurst Seager Community Council), Mrs Mary Clegg (Greenaway's chancery), Chichester Cathedral also representing the Dean of Chichester, Diocesan Redundant Churches Fund, Ms Janita Bagshaw (Royal Pavilion, Brighton), Mr William Gaze (Foreign Office), Mr Andrew Barker (Foreign and Colonial Small Companys), Mr Andrew White (Institute for Christians and Jews), Mr Alan H. Smith (School), Mr Patrick Macfie (Wykeham Soc.), Mr Roy French (Child and Family Court), Mr John Trumper (Clunions), Mr William T. Morris (M.A.C. Ltd), Mr T. Nagashige (Tatashi Toyota), Mr Lowe (Tatashi Toyota), Mr Lawrence (Post Club).

Mr and Mrs Philip Turner, Mrs Edward and Mr Frank Gilmore, Mr John Andrew, Mr William White, Dr and Mrs D. H. Newsome, Mr M. R. Foot, Mr Patrick Grier, Mrs Andrew Stewart-Dyer, Mr Robert Cecil, Mr Peter Lewis, Mr Roger Griffiths, Mrs Jack Steinberg, Mr Michael Hinton, Mr C. Morris, Mr P. C. Hanmer, Mr Anthony Moore, Mrs Mark Sellman, Colonel Peter Harwood, Mr John Arts, Mr Colin Baker, Mr Alan Saxon, Mr John Dixon, Mrs Elizabeth Glaser, QC, Mr Peter Lewis, Mr Roger Griffiths, Mrs Jack Steinberg, Mr Michael Hinton, Mr C. Morris, Mr P. C. Hanmer, Mr Anthony Moore, Mrs Mark Sellman, Colonel Peter Harwood, Mr John Arts, Mr Colin Baker, Mr Alan Saxon, Mr John Dixon, Mrs Elizabeth Glaser, QC, Mr Peter Lewis, Mr Roger Griffiths, Mrs Jack Steinberg, Mr Michael Hinton, Mr C. Morris, Mr P. C. 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Singing all the way to the bank: Peggy Lee, who has won the latest round of her battle with Disney over royalties for the cartoon film *The Lady and the Tramp*

FROM WILLIAM CASH
IN LOS ANGELES

THE classic cartoon musical *The Lady and the Tramp* has become a multi-million video nasty for the Walt Disney company after the Californian Court of Appeals upheld a 1988 suit brought by the singer Peggy Lee. Miss Lee helped to compose the score for the film, supplied voices for a dog, Siamese

cats and a human, and sang three songs — for which she was paid \$3,500 in 1952. For the past four years, she has been fighting for a share of more than \$80 million made from video sales claiming that her contract — drawn up before home video technology existed — did not give Disney the right to sell *Lady and the Tramp* videos without her permission. In 1988, she was awarded up to \$3.8 million by a superior court

in Los Angeles, when Disney was found guilty of breach of contract and of using the singer's name and photograph without permission. The studio has since twice appealed. Now the original verdict has been upheld. Hollywood executives fear a deluge of lawsuits from "golden oldie" film stars and singers whose pre-1980s contracts did not specify the right to sell videos. Miss Lee, who is in frail health, sat hidden under a large

rimmed black hat at the back of the Los Angeles courtroom in a wheelchair to hear the verdict and said afterwards: "Disney have been dragging this case on for years hoping that I either give up or die — after three decisions against it I hope that Disney will now end the hostility." But the studio, which had a team of 12 lawyers in court, may now appeal to the supreme court. The Peggy Lee case is one of several embarrassing

actions brought against Disney recently. A senior architect with EuroDisney is suing after being sacked for going to work in a moustache. In 1989, Disney settled out of court with a \$95,000 donation to local animal groups after Disneyworld employees were accused of trapping and killing vultures that ventured on to the theme park. More recently, Disney has been fined for sewage violations.



Video age brings singer a 1000% pay rise, forty years on

Airlines check jumbo jet bolts after crash in Amsterdam

Continued from page 1 regularly inspected in any case. It is not known how long before the Amsterdam crash the EL Al jet had had its bolts inspected.

British Airways, which has 31 aircraft involved, and Virgin Atlantic, which has eight, began the inspections as their aircraft arrived for routine maintenance.

"A service bulletin has gone out asking customers of 747-100s, 747-200s and 747-300s with Rolls-Royce and Pratt & Whitney engines to inspect the fuse pins which connect the engine struts to the wings," a Boeing spokesman said. "This is being regarded as a precautionary measure. We have not found any evidence of damaged fuse pins in the Taiwan crash or in the El Al disaster."

Neither the fuse pins nor the plane's "black box" flight recorder had been found last night even after ponds in the area had been drained.

Across The Netherlands an official period of mourning began with Ruud Lubbers, the prime minister, leading a minute's silence in parliament. Flags flew at half mast, aircraft were ordered not to fly

"Too heavy" theory, page 2

Tebbit's Euro onslaught wins ovation

Continued from page 1

speak of the savage cost of the ERM to lost jobs, bankrupt firms and repossessed homes.

Earlier Mr Baker claimed that he had fought against the ERM and Maastricht while he was in the cabinet. But Mr Clarke said that Mr Baker had "never expressed the slightest doubt" about the Maastricht negotiations. Only Margaret Thatcher and Nicholas Ridley had opposed ERM entry at cabinet level.

Brighton reports, pages 4, 5
Leading articles, page 13

Smiley's people spy a planet beyond Pluto

Continued from page 1

predicted in 1951 by the late Gerard Kuiper, a Dutch astronomer. There may be up to a billion objects in this belt, but they are so far away that QB1 is the first to be seen. Measurements by Alain Smette and Christian Vanderstraeten of ESO show that QB1 is six million times fainter than any object that can be seen with the naked eye.

Dr Jewitt and Luu had been searching on and off for five years for objects in the Kuiper Belt before they hit on QB1. The reddish colour of the object has also excited astronomers, because it indicates that

it is made of the primitive matter of which the entire planetary system was built.

Four years ago, calculations by Canadian astronomers indicated that the Kuiper Belt was probably the origin of comets with orbital periods of less than 200 years, including Halley's comet. At 125 miles across, QB1 is only a tenth as large as Pluto. Technically, the name for it is a planetesimal.

The ESO astronomers have not ruled out the possibility that it might be a very distant comet whose surface has suddenly flared up.

Leading article, page 13

Conference sketch

Raising hackles — and heckles

If a town's spirit is sometimes captured by its graffiti, the gulf of a party conference is sometimes best expressed by its heckles. So it was in Brighton yesterday.

When elderly gentlemen in blazer barrack the foreign secretary, you know the Tories are in a tight spot. When a peer and previous chairman of the Conservative party beats up the prime minister, to rebel roar from the back, you know it's serious. But when Dame Elaine Kellert-Bowman heckles the lady mayor of Brighton, what is the world coming to?

Problems had begun early. The two hymns had passed without incident (a triumph for the word-police at Conservative Central Office only "distress" and "feeble" in *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* slipped through the net) and Mrs Angela Rumbold looked tenuously at Mr Major as she sang "All lovely forms declare his loveliness".

When the speech was over, he joined the clapping enthusiastically, but kept his hands under the seat-back, so that this would not be visible to the cameras or to the platform party. He is rather short-sighted, and said to me "Is the prime minister looking my way?"

"No," I said. At this point he raised his hands above the parapet and clapped even louder.

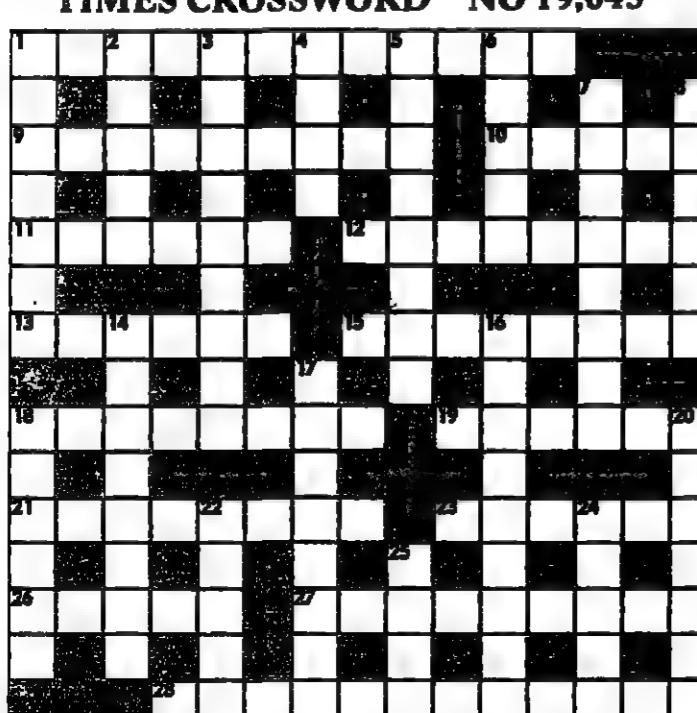
The next speaker was in favour of Maastricht. Our destiny lay in Europe, she said. "Never!" somebody shouted from the back. The whole hall tensed up. You simply don't heckle anyone in a hat, but Dame Elaine, the redoubtable MP for Lancaster and parliamentary equivalent of a gunboat, fired off three broadsides at the Worshipful Mayor of Brighton. Cllr Mrs Gill Sweeting, all but knocking her hat off in the onslaught.

Mrs Sweeting began by saying she had hoped to welcome a Labour government to Brighton. Dame Elaine grew resolute. Then Mrs Sweeting started to complain about the town's West Pier, for which funds were needed. "This is a party political broadcast" shouted the dame, from the floor.

Platform heads spun her way. Next, Mrs Sweeting had applied for assisted area status. "I hope you don't get it!" yelled the dame. On completing her speech, the

MATTHEW PARRIS

TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,043



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GIRASOL
a. A portable sunshade
b. An artichoke
c. A minor planet

POCHETTE
a. A little stew-pot
b. An envelope for stamps
c. A breed of bantam

EBURNEAN
a. Made of ivory
b. Coming from the North
c. Drunken and disorderly

ECBASIS
a. A supporting buttress
b. The original cause
c. A rhetorical digression

Answers on page 14

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-work information, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 401, followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C London (within N & S Circs) ... 731

M-ways/roads M4-M1 ... 732

M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T ... 733

M-ways/roads M25-M4 ... 734

M-ways/roads M23-M4 ... 735

M25 London Orbital only ... 736

National traffic and roadworks

C London (within N & S Circs) ... 731

West Country ... 737

Wales ... 738

Midlands ... 740

East Anglia ... 741

North-West England ... 742

North-East England ... 743

Scotland ... 744

Northern Ireland ... 745

4 A fish in jelly (4).

5 He's in tap-dancing — it's dramatic (8).

6 Revive everyone in France (5).

7 Not the island with a lake — that's imaginary (8).

8 Uptight about the church's hypocrisy (6).

14 Money finds general acceptance (8).

16 Queen is in the palace to change (5).

17 Thrill to introduce rock in cheap joint (5-3).

20 Dramatis's business tie-up (6).

21 Sprig of flowers on Queen Elizabeth rose (7).

22 Student approach upsetting — a sort of wave (5).

24 Wars caused by Marx's popular religion? (5).

25 There's a lot to be said for having a festive here (4).

Concise Crossword, page 9

Life & Times section

Solution to Puzzle No 19,042

WORKSHOP RAVISH
RIVIERA NANA
GARDEN OBSOLETE
TNG TADM
DISAGREE ROSITRA
YOGIC GIL
SHIPE SHIRAPPAD
CONDITON ACONA
GOAMEP
PISTOL MANDARIN
HT LOST
ABRASION PRIDE
NIDEMO
TELSON YEARNING

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 10 of the 22 competitors, the fastest time being 8 minutes, at the 1992 national final of The Times InterCity Crossword Championship.

WEATHER

will be thinner, with sunny spells in many parts by afternoon, although there may be light showers near the east coast. The north and the west will generally be brighter, after early mist; only the far north of Scotland is likely to see persistent rain, and, even then, not much. Outlook: dry and settled apart from light drizzle spreading from Scotland to other areas near the east coast on Friday!

ABROAD

MONDAY: 1- thunder, d- drizzle, lg- long, s- sun, sl- shower, sn- snow, bl- blizzard, br- blizzard, r- rain, c- cloud, f- fog

Aberdeen ... 21 12 54 sunny

Alexander ... 20 13 55 sunny

Alexandria ... 29 14 54 dull

Algiers ... 27 11 51 dull

Amsterdam ... 12 15 55 dull

Ankara ... 13 16 55 dull

Antwerp ... 20 14 55 dull

Barcelona ... 28 15 55 dull

Bogota ... 22 17 55 dull

Bonn/Bremen ... 21 16 55 dull

Boston ... 29 15 55 dull

Brussels ... 23 16 55 dull

Budapest ... 26 17 55 dull

Buenos Aires ... 24 18 55 dull

Burnaby ... 25 17 55 dull

Calgary ... 27 18 55 dull

Cape Town ... 21 19 55 dull

Caracas ... 28 17 55 dull

Copenhagen ... 22 18 55 dull

Dakar ... 23 19 55 dull

Damascus ... 24 18 55 dull

Dublin ... 25 19 55 dull

Durban ... 26 18 55 dull

Egypt ... 27 19 55 dull

Edinburgh ... 28 18 55 dull

El Paso ... 29 19 55 dull

Frankfurt ... 26 18 55 dull

Glasgow ... 27 19 55 dull

Helsinki ... 28 19 55 dull

Hiroshima ... 29 19 55 dull

Istanbul ... 27 19 55 dull

Johannesburg ... 28 19 55 dull

Khartoum ... 29 19 55 dull

Kuala Lumpur ... 27 19 55 dull

Kyoto ... 28 19 55 dull

Lagos ... 29 19 55 dull

Lima ... 26 18 55 dull

Lisbon ... 27 19 55 dull

London ... 28 19 55 dull

Luanda ... 29 19 55 dull

Madrid ... 27 19 55 dull

Milan ... 28 19 55 dull

Moscow ... 29 19 55 dull

Nairobi ... 28 19 55 dull

Nicosia ... 29 19 55 dull

Oslo ... 28 19 55 dull

● BUSINESS 17-22, 27
● FOCUS 23-26
● COMMERCIAL PROPERTY 28

BUSINESS TIMES

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

SPORT
29-32

Stock market rebounds on back of sterling

Pound stages strongest rally since ERM exit

BY COLIN NARBROUGH AND MICHAEL CLARK

THE pound staged a timely rally for the opening day of the Conservative party conference. Overnight buying in the Far East pushed it to DM2.4548 by the London opening, up more than six pence from Monday.

Sterling's better performance encouraged share prices to claw back some of Monday's sharp falls on the stock exchange.

Despite uncertainty about economic policy, sterling held on most of its gains to stand at DM2.4509 at the official 4pm close. Against the dollar, it ended little changed at \$1.7145. But the Bank of England's trade-weighted sterling index rose by 1.1 to 81.7.

Currency analysts described the pound's sharp comeback from Monday's record low of DM2.3696, its best day since Britain left the exchange-rate mechanism as a largely technical correction that reflected the unwinding of short positions. Uncertainty about whether Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, will spell out his new economic policy at Brighton, or wait for an appearance before a Commons select committee next Monday, also fostered market caution.

In Whitehall, some of sterling's improvement was attributed to the prime minister's forceful reaffirmation of his commitment to ratifying the Maastricht treaty. But doubts persisted in the City over the durability of the rebound. The much-awaited announcement of

the policy that is to replace Britain's participation in the exchange-rate mechanism could help the market decide which way to jump. Analysts felt, however, that there was so far little to suggest a policy shift that would convince the market that the background for the pound was more favourable.

A general decrease in volatility in the currency market, and a firmer dollar, helped sentiment for sterling. But the market remains concerned about the poor fundamentals for the currency.

Avinash Persaud, currency economist at UBS Phillips & Drew, said hopes of a internationally co-ordinated move to restore stability are likely to go unfulfilled. He expects sterling to drop to about DM2.30 by the end of the year. Any disappointment on economic policy would also bring renewed pressure on the pound, he said.

The dollar strengthened on short-covering after Wall Street began to stabilise on Monday night after market expectations of a fresh cut in the American discount rate started to wane. The latest labour market and orders figures from Germany appeared to have little impact.

The dollar gained more than three pence against the mark to DM1.4260 during European trading.

The Italian lira, like sterling forced out of the ERM last month, made strong gains

against the mark. It hit a high

of 909.19 in late afternoon, after a morning low of around 900, moving in huge swings that caught dealers off guard.

In Britain, the government's longer leading index, which identifies turning points in the economy about a year ahead, showed fell to 103.5 in August, down 0.3 in July, government figures showed. The decline mainly reflected a fall in share prices.

The FT-SE 100 Index, which suffered its biggest one-day fall on Monday since the stock market crash of October 1987, recovered some of its poise to finish 42.1 higher at 2,438.4. But it continues to mire a fall of 60 points over the two-day period, although the general feeling in the market yesterday was that Monday's fall had been overdone.

Share prices started the session on a firmer note, cheered by the late rally on Wall Street and a positive performance in Tokyo. It was the pound's biggest rally against the mark since it was devalued last month and helped to bolster sentiment, as well as keep alive hopes of a cut in bank base rates before too long.

However, there was little evidence of genuine retail business investors were unwilling to open fresh positions before the Chancellor's speech at the Conservative party conference in Brighton tomorrow.

By the close of business only 467 million shares had changed hands. The bulk of turnover came from market-makers arbitraging between the cash and futures markets to cover individual positions.

As one leading broker commented: "This is no market for investors of a nervous disposition."

Government securities had a nervous session, unsettled by worries about the economic outlook.

Prices in longs fluctuated throughout the afternoon, closing with small losses. But at the shorter end, some gains were recorded, cheered by sterling's performance.

Stock market, page 20

Comment, page 21



Welcoming ways: afternoon tea, at £13 a head, offers an affordable entry into The Ritz

Putting on the Ritz helps attract fleeting visitors

BY MATTHEW BOND

EVEN in the depths of recession, tea at The Ritz is still one of the hottest tickets in town. At £13 per person, it is one of the more affordable ways of rubbing shoulders with what remains of the bright and the beautiful.

For tea apart, The Ritz is still a deliciously expensive affair. Venture off the fixed menu and lunch or dinner is likely to set you back a three-figure sum. Overdo it on Ritz own-label vintage champagne and a standard room will cost £220 a night to retire to. For a room with a view over Green Park you will need £640.

Regardless of, or perhaps because of, the cost people have flocked to The Ritz ever

since it opened in 1906. Designed by Charles Mewes and Arthur Davis, students of L'Ecole des Beaux Arts and the designers of the other Ritz in Paris, the chateau they built on Piccadilly quickly became a centre for the beau monde. Its popularity has occasionally been interrupted by such passing diversions as night clubs in the twenties and the blitz, but the Palm Court always bounces back.

Presiding over all the high society goings on is the improbable but considerable figure of Terry Holmes, the managing director, an eastender by birth and now a key member of the Comard team. Mr Holmes must go the

Trafalgar ponders sale of top hotels

BY GRAHAM SEARLENT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

TRAfalgar House, the construction and engineering conglomerate, has prepared a brochure for the possible sale of its three St James's luxury hotels, the Ritz, Stafford and Dukes, and has already exchanged conditional contracts to sell two Caribbean resort hotels, thought to be worth more than £10 million.

Comard, the group's passenger shipping business, will also look for a joint venture partner to help it expand.

The plans are disclosed in a hastily assembled defence document aimed at persuading shareholders not to sell shares to the tender offer by Hongkong Land, which aims to raise its stake from 14.9 per cent to 29.9 per cent by Friday afternoon. Sir Nigel Broackes, the chairman, says the 85p offer seriously undervalues the group. "Hongkong Land is attempting to obtain effective control of Trafalgar House through a minority stake".

The board expects a final dividend of only 1.6p per share, against the 4.8p envisaged in its half-yearly report in May, because of the worsening impact of recession. At the offer price, Trafalgar shares, up 0.5p to 84.5p, would yield 9.4 per cent on the full-year dividend of 6p per share.

Borrowings, source of much adverse speculation, were £360 million at the end of September, less than analysts had expected. The group has also guaranteed £115 million loan by associated companies. That left unutilised long-term committed borrowing facilities of £440 million. Sir Nigel says the group is within borrowing covenants.

There is no profit estimate for the year just ended, because provisions against values of properties and developments have yet to be fixed. These will depend in part on the outcome of a dispute with the Financial Reporting Review Panel over reclassification of some development properties as investments in the previous year.

The board says operating profits of the main engineering business will be significantly ahead of last time's £60.4 million but profits are well down elsewhere. Analysts expect group pre-tax profits between £90 million and £100 million before provisions, down from £122 million.

Comment, page 21

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7145 (-0.015)
German mark
2.4500 (+0.0579)
Exchange index
81.7 (+1.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
1814.2 (+34.8)
FT-SE 100
2488.4 (+42.1)
New York Dow Jones
3177.65 (-1.35)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
17268.10 (+166.60)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 9%
3-month Interbank 9%-9.5%
3-month eligible bills 8%-9.5%
US Prime Rate: 3%*
3-month Treasury Bills: 2.72-2.70%
30-year bonds: 9.5%-9.5%*

CURRENCIES

London:
\$1.7105
DM2.4488
SwF2.1441
FF16.2988
Yen204.83
Index 81.7
ECU 0.799801
London Foreign market close

COMMODITIES

London Fixing:
AM \$350.50 PM \$350.50
Close \$350.00-\$350.50
2203.75-204.75
New York
Comex \$349.95-\$350.45*

MORTGAGE RATES

Brent (Oct) £20.25/6.01 (£20.25)

RENTAL PRICES

RPI 133.9 August (1987=100)
Domesday building price

Texaco confirms staff shift to Docklands

BY OUR CITY STAFF

TEXACO, the American oil group, yesterday confirmed it would move 1,000 staff to Canary Wharf in the first quarter of next year.

While the relocation is almost the first piece of good news the *bankrupt* development has received since it passed into administration in May, it has been at a price.

Texaco had originally intended to move from its Knightsbridge headquarters last August, but the relocation was postponed after Canary Wharf went into administration. A company spokesman said that the decision to proceed with the move was made

after lengthy talks with administrators and the scheme's bankers. In addition to 1 Westferry Circus, Texaco is renting an extra 30,000 sq ft on two floors at the adjacent building, 7 Westferry Circus.

Other prospective tenants have not been as forthcoming as Texaco. American Express recently confirmed it was not moving its head office to Canary Wharf, while Manufacturers Hanover, the investment bank, is also seeking offices elsewhere in the City.

Last week, the administrators made their final formal proposal to the government over private sector funding to the Jubilee Line extension into Docklands. A decision on the Jubilee line is expected this week at the Conservative party conference.

Ex-Maxwell finance director arrested

BY ANGELA MACKAY

ROBERT Bunn, the former finance director of Robert Maxwell Group, was arrested yesterday and charged with conspiracy to defraud over his role in the Maxwell affair. The amount involved in the charge was not quantified but it is believed to relate to about £50 million of shares in Berlitz International, the language training group.

Mr Bunn, 46, was charged that on divers days between November 1, 1990, and the December 31, 1991, he conspired with others to defraud a syndicate of 35 banks led by Swiss Bank Corp and Credit Lyonnais by knowingly and dishonestly being a party to the pledging of common stock in Berlitz International Inc by way of security for loans to third parties in breach of the

terms of a loan agreement dated October 23, 1989, between the banks and Maxwell Communication Corp.

Ian Burton, Mr Bunn's solicitor, said his client had been arrested by City of London Police by arrangement with the Serious Fraud Office and that he had been helping enquiries over the past few months. Mr Bunn was released on police bail to appear at City of London magistrates court on December 1, when Kevin and Ian Maxwell and Larry Trachtenberg will also appear.

Kevin Maxwell has failed in his second High Court attempt to force disclosure by the SFO of the documentary evidence forming the basis of the theft and conspiracy charges against him.

Heseltine rewrites the Parker script

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

PARKER Pen directors may have thought they were home and dry this time. But their fourth attempt to sell the company has run into a rather large hurdle, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Michael Heseltine, trade secretary, referred the £285 million sale of Parker to Gillette to the MMC yesterday on the advice of Sir Bryan Carsberg, director general of fair trading. The MMC's report is due in January.

The four directors who led Parker's £70 million buyout of Manpower in 1986 stand to share £28.5 million if the sale goes ahead.

The OFT is concerned that the sale would give Gillette

Parker is already a world leader in the supply of refillable pens. The OFT believes that although it would appear to be an easy market for potential suppliers to enter, the importance of a strong brand name tends to exclude new entrants.

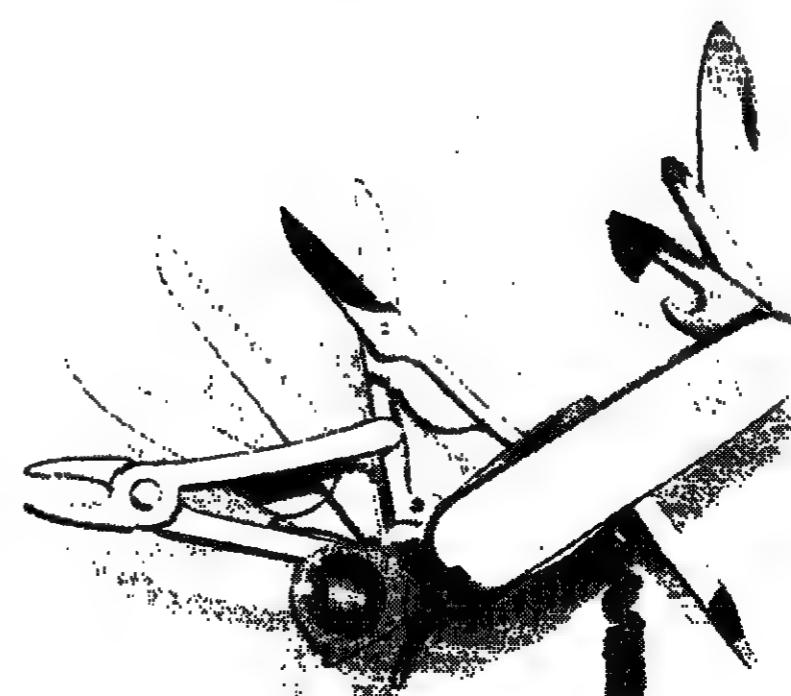
The OFT received complaints from retailers that brand awareness of the combined group would be further strengthened and its ability to put up prices enhanced.

Robert Barnsley, Parker finance director, rejected complaints that consumers will suffer if the sale goes ahead. He said: "We do not believe that there would be a disadvantage to the buying public. There are still many working instrument makers." The two

also need regulatory approval in France, Germany, Canada and America. The Parker directors and managers control 31 per cent of shares, valuing their stake at £88 million; four directors hold 10 per cent.

The directors first planned a flotation in November 1987, but it was called off after Black Monday. They tried again in June 1988, but backed off when the market dipped. A friendly £180 million takeover by Pentland failed in December 1988 after disagreements over warranties and indemnities.

BUSINESS GIFTS



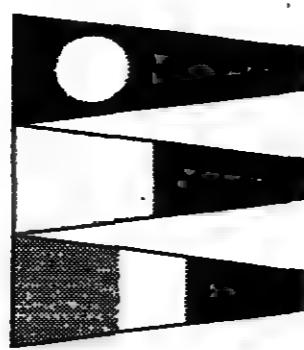
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NOTICE TO TRAFALGAR HOUSE ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS



TRAFLGAR HOUSE PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

**Hongkong Land has acquired 14.9%
of your company and has submitted
a tender offer for a further 15%**

Trafalgar House recommends shareholders not to accept the tender offer

Your board believes that:

- the price offered by Hongkong Land is inadequate and seriously undervalues Trafalgar House
- Hongkong Land is attempting to obtain effective control of Trafalgar House through a minority stake

JOHN BROWN

TRAFLGAR HOUSE
CONSTRUCTION

TRAFLGAR HOUSE PROPERTY

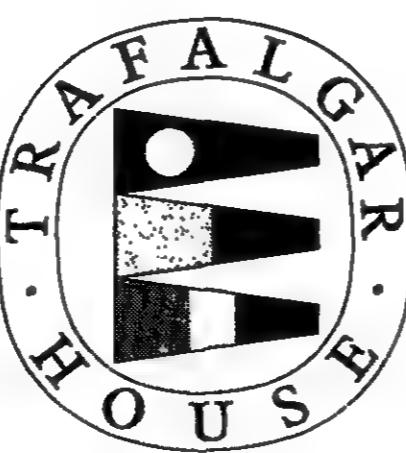


CLEVELAND
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING



TROLLOPE & COLLS

QUEEN
ELIZABETH 2



CEMENTATION

CUNARD

Ideal
Homes

TRAFLGAR HOUSE
ENGINEERING

A circular was posted to Trafalgar House shareholders yesterday by the Board of your company

REJECT THE TENDER OFFER

[Signature]

Fiat drives for larger share of UK market

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

FIAT is to spend £5 million on five prime dealership sites in London, Birmingham and Manchester in an attempt to boost its flagging share of the British car market.

The money comes out of £100 million that has been set aside by the Italian car maker to strengthen and improve its dealer network. Fiat will run the new dealerships itself, in addition to its two other prestige dealerships in London.

Giorgio Garuzzo, Fiat's chief operating officer, is in Britain this week visiting the company's offices and factories and meeting local MPs. He said he is trying to get a message across to Fiat's 8,000 British staff that the group is committed to the UK.

Fiat has 2.5 per cent of the UK car market, its weakest market in Europe. In the rest of Europe, its market share averages 13 per cent. Despite its weakness in cars, Fiat is the third-biggest non-British automotive company in the country in terms of employees after Ford and Vauxhall.

It is also the biggest supplier of combine harvesters, with a 32 per cent market share, and is also market leader in the supply of agricultural tractors with a 25.7 per cent share. Fiat is the second-biggest supplier of heavy trucks, with a 23.1 per cent market share.

The company ranks fourth in the sale of construction equipment with a 12.2 per cent share, sixth in light commercial vehicles with 3 per cent and tenth in car sales with just 2.5 per cent.

Fiat's poor image problem stems back to the late seventies and mid-eighties, when its cars suffered from early rusting. Signor Garuzzo said Fiat now finds it harder to sell its cars in the UK than any other European country.

He said: "If the customer can be convinced to try a car, it is more likely that he will buy one. It is more difficult to convince a customer to come and try our cars."

"We are to be much more active and effective in develop-

ing our car presence in the UK," he said.

Along with the new dealerships, Fiat is planning a series of steps to improve its image and persuade car buyers to test-drive its cars.

It is offering its 250 dealers dual franchises, encouraging them to sell Fiats alongside Lancias or Alfa-Romeos.

Fiat is trying to improve the service offered by dealers by improving the training and support it provides and using part of the £100 million fund to recapitalise them, by providing the cash for showroom and customer facility improvements.

A spokesman said the company is spending £18.5 billion on new products, "so we have to have a financially secure network to sell the new products".

Signor Garuzzo forecast an early end to the recession in the automotive markets in Britain.

He said: "I believe that with this devaluation and with the current interest rates in this country, with the long period of time that has passed since the UK went into recession, that we could see an upturn in the British market earlier than expected."

Signor Garuzzo said that while there will be no sudden improvement, "some recovery would not surprise me".



Garuzzo: touring UK

Hanson sells three US subsidiaries

HANSON, the international conglomerate that is bidding £780 million for Rank Hovis McDougall, has raised \$11 million (£6.4 million) in three separate sales. Lord White, chairman of Hanson's US operation, said the group had sold A&S Building Systems, Halkey-Roberts' lighting systems division, and Endicott's Ranger footwear division. For the year to September, the three businesses made combined operating losses of about \$3 million on sales of \$36 million.

Lord White also announced that Hanson has signed an agreement to sell its Weber Aircraft unit to Air Cruisers, part of France's Groupe Zodiac. The price being paid is \$85 million in cash, a \$37 million premium to book value. The transaction is subject to government approvals and is expected to be completed in early November. For the year to September, Weber, which makes aircraft seats, made an operating loss as a result of several low-margin contracts and manufacturing inefficiencies.

Derwent Valley gains

LOWER interest costs helped Derwent Valley Holdings, the property investment company, to lift first-half profits by 41.9 per cent in the six months to June 30, despite depression in the sector and a dip in revenue from properties. Pre-tax profits climbed to £603,000, against £425,000 last time. Gross rental income held steady at £3.82 million (£3.81 million), although net revenue from properties dipped to £3.15 million (£3.2 million). Interest costs dropped to £1.56 million (£1.73 million). Earnings per share rose to 5.2p, up from 3p last time. The interim dividend stays at 2.9p.

Ben Bailey in the red

BEN Bailey Construction, the Yorkshire property company, made a pre-tax loss of £443,000 (£317,000 profit) in the year to June 30. Turnover was £16.95 million (£16.5 million). Write-downs on development land and property stocks increased to £467,000 (£46,000). There was a loss per share of 2.96p (earnings of 2.16p). A final dividend of 0.25p (0.5p) makes a total of 0.55p (0.8p). The company blamed lower margins and property write-downs for the slump. Little improvement in margins is predicted and further cuts in overhead and production costs are being made.

QS ahead at half time

QS HOLDINGS, the discount clothing retailer, increased pre-tax profits by 6.7 per cent, to £3.86 million (£2.6 million) in the six months to July 31. Turnover was £23.2 million (£20.4 million). Earnings per share were 6.57p (6.07p). There is an interim dividend of 1.56p (1.45p). QS sells women's and children's wear and a selection of menswear in 78 stores in southern England. New stores have opened in Croydon, Hemel Hempstead and Cirencester. An enlarged distribution centre will open next month and benefits from new computer systems are filtering through.

Qantas float next year

QANTAS Airways will not be floated before March and the deal will depend on the state of the equities markets, Ralph Willis, Australia's finance minister, told MPs. The government said in May that it planned to sell Qantas and its domestic subsidiary, Australian Airlines, partly by a public flotation. Its budget for the year to June 1993 assumed proceeds from the sale of about A\$1 billion (£426,000). British Airways expressed an interest.

Jobless fall fails to calm recession fears in Germany

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

UNEMPLOYMENT fell slightly in Germany in September, but the decline in the number of jobless in the eastern regional states was much less than had been expected, and fears of recession in western Germany persist.

Government figures show that unemployment last month in the western half of the country fell to 1.78 million, or 6.5 per cent of the workforce, down from 6.7 per cent in August. In eastern Germany, the slow response of which to massive transfers of funds from the west has disappointed the federal authorities.

Bigger loss at Brown & Jackson

Brown & Jackson, the retailer that owns the Poundstretcher discount chain, is pinning its hopes on a successful Christmas after falling deeply into the red this year.

The company, which is struggling to restore its fortunes after a financial restructuring, saw losses deepen from £4.3 million to £9.7 million in the six months to end-June. The results included a £6.37 million write-off on the sale of A&C Imports, a subsidiary.

Ian Gray, chief executive, said he was happy with developments so far. He said: "We never claimed this was going to turn round quickly."

Tempus, page 20

Harmony goes deeper in red

Full-year losses deepened at Harmony Leisure Group, the pub, restaurant and hotel group, as increased exceptional charges took their toll. The USM-quoted company reports a pre-tax loss of £3.68 million in the year to end-March (£2.17 million loss, turnover declined from £9.63 million to £6.5 million).

Loss per share increased to 13.85p, against a deficit of 8.07p last year. There is again no dividend.

Chilled wine

Simpsons of Cornhill, the City wine bar and restaurant group, did not do quite as well, as directors had hoped in the first full year as a listed company. Turnover in July to 4 was £1.5 million and operating profits were £132,000 before interest charges of £52,000. An absence of tax or a dividend leaves a retained profit of £80,000. Earnings per share were 2.4p. Building work near the Jamaica Wine House was blamed for a fall in trade.

Navan offer

Navan Resources, the Irish exploration group that holds various mineral rights across eastern Europe, aims to raise at least £13.85 million (£4.2 million) to help speed up its European development programme. The money, essentially earmarked for Hungarian mining ventures, will be raised via an offer and placing of convertible loan notes.

Golden acres

Montague Gold of Australia, which in February was granted exploration option rights for almost 4.1 million acres in central Alaska to explore for gold and alloy metals, says that results of exploration work have been "encouraging". Montague has been examining various mineralised veins, and says the size of the anomalies and the tenor of the gold mineralisation are comparable with those outlined at Fort Knox, an advanced gold property nearby that is being developed by Amex Gold.

Jeeps deal

Seibu will begin sales of Chrysler-made Cherokee and Wrangler jeeps from January. The company hopes for annual sales of 1,500 vehicles.

Opec busier

The International Energy Agency estimated that Opec crude oil output rose to 24.7 million barrels a day in September, from a revised 24.5 million barrels in August.

Company saver

Nine out of ten companies closed by creditors could be rescued and expanded, saving the nation millions of pounds every year, Courtney Mahr, specialist in company rescues, has told the government.

ties, the number of unemployed fell to 1.11 million, or 4.1 per cent, in September, from 4.8 per cent in August.

Other official data showed that west German industrial orders dropped 0.4 per cent in August to a level 6 per cent below that of August 1991. The July fall was revised down to 0.7 per cent. The economics ministry said the decline in August orders was primarily attributable to a drop in domestic business. Export orders held steady, despite a decline in vehicle exports.

The two-month comparison showed that industrial orders in July and August were 1.5 per cent down from May and June. Domestic orders were down 1 per cent, and foreign orders were 3 per cent lower, reflecting the sluggishness of markets around the world.

Orders for consumer goods were surprisingly strong, with a rise of 3 per cent in the latest two months, but other important categories showed substantial declines.

Compared with last year, orders in July and August were 6.7 per cent lower. Export orders, probably suffering from the strong mark, showed a decline of 8.5 per cent.

Heinrich Franke, head of the federal labour office, commented against reading too much into the drop in the number of jobless last month in eastern Germany. He said the movement in no way reflected a recovery, adding that increased investment remained the key to improvement and more jobs.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in west Germany, regarded by economists as a better guide to labour market trends, showed a rise to 1.86 million in August, its eighth

consecutive monthly gain. Short-time working was also up. Most forecasters expect unemployment to rise in the months ahead.

Despite growing concern about recession, and Bundesbank encouragement of softer money market rates, Frankfurt economists still believe the German central bank will wait for evidence of success in its battle against inflation before lowering key lending rates.

Some analysts believe a cut could come in November.

Others foresee the Bundesbank waiting until the end of the year. The Bundesbank's tight monetary policy means the mark is likely to gain in strength, especially if other leading economies opt to lower their interest rates in the coming weeks.

German politicians and industrialists are increasingly worried that the strong mark will threaten hopes of economic recovery by making it more difficult to export German goods, while fostering import penetration.

Henning Christensen, vice-president of the European Commission, urged Germany to clarify its financing plans for German reunification, to help reinforce European monetary co-operation.

At a seminar in Sweden, he said Britain, Italy and Spain needed to raise their credibility, as did Germany, which had an "unclear situation on the financing of the reunification".

The huge increase in Germany's public sector borrowing, arising from reunification, has been one of the main reasons behind the Bundesbank's determination to keep the monetary reins tight, restraining economic activity across Europe.

Barings Brothers, the company's adviser, said the placing and intermediaries' offer of 25 million 10p ordinary shares at 120p each would capitalise the group at £61.7 million.



Fire gazing: a potential customer examines Trinity group vehicles, including Dennis fire engines, that were up for auction earlier this year

Share placing will wipe out Trinity's borrowings

By PHILIP PANGALOS

A SHARE placing will raise £30 million for Trinity Holdings, a designer and maker of specialist vehicles ranging from Dennis fire engines to buses and refuse collection wagons. Trinity, which joins the market later this month, was formed by a management buyout of Hestair's engineering division in 1989. Geoff Hollyhead, chairman and chief executive, led the buyout.

Baring Brothers, the company's adviser, said the placing and intermediaries' offer of 25 million 10p ordinary shares at 120p each would capitalise the group at £61.7 million.

Albert E Sharp is broker to the issue. Trinity's directors will have about 21 per cent of the enlarged share capital; the original backers, which include Citicorp and Banks Trust, will have about 22 per cent.

Of the money raised by the placing, some £14 million net of expenses, will go to Trinity's reserves, while £10.1 million will be used to repay outstanding bank loans and other borrowings and £3.9 million will go to redeem the cumulative preference shares. Most of Trinity's debt will be repaid after the issue, leaving the group virtually debt-free.

Trinity's operating profits are forecast to advance to £8.5 million for the

year to January 31, 1993, compared with £5.6 million for 1992 and £4.8 million for 1991. Sales reached £82 million in 1992 and £58 million in 1991.

At the 120p issue price, Trinity would trade on a multiple of 11.3 times forecast pro forma earnings for this year, putting it at about a 15 per cent discount to the market. The pro forma dividend yield at the issue price is 6 per cent, which represents a market premium of about 6 per cent.

Sandy Morris, an analyst at County NatWest, the securities house, said he felt that the package on offer looked "quite reasonable".

Mr Hollyhead said: "Trinity has

achieved record output and pre-tax profits every year since its formation. We have achieved significant growth against the background of a contraction of our markets in the United Kingdom, boosted exports to a third of our output and gained market leadership in our principal product areas. We view the future with considerable confidence."

The group has 40 per cent of the British market for fire engines and its Dart mid-sized bus is the biggest seller in Britain. A spokesman said the placing had gone "quite well", with interest from several institutions. The shares are due to start trading on October 19.

Shephard invited into union's fold

By PATRICIA TEHAN

GILLIAN Shephard has become the first employment secretary to be invited to an executive meeting of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, Britain's second-biggest union.

Gavin Laird, general secretary, sent a letter to Mrs Shephard inviting her to one of the union's regular Tuesday meetings to discuss the new employment bill, which it believes will badly affect industrial relations and exacerbate the serious skills shortage that exists despite the recession. A spokesman said it also wants to stress the continued drain on manufacturing jobs.

The AEEU plans to set up a stand at the Confederation of British Industry conference in Harrogate next month. Meanwhile, Mrs Shephard

missiles at each other. A meeting with the minister would be good for the government and good for us."

This is the first time a union has invited an employment minister to attend. Industrial leaders and Labour party officials make regular appearances there.

A union spokesman said the invitation follows comments by Mrs Shephard that the government's war with trade unions is over. In his letter to Mrs Shephard he said the AEEU tries to minimise the adversarial nature of trade unions.

The AEEU plans to set up a stand at the Confederation of British Industry conference in Harrogate next month.

Meanwhile, Mrs Shephard

yesterday said she was "extremely concerned" about the rising level of job losses after a week in which 9,500 people lost their jobs.

Her sentiments were expressed as Sanyo, the Japanese electronics group, announced that it is to shed 95 staff from its workforce in the North East of England, reducing its staffing levels in the region by a third. The group blamed the recession and a fall in demand. The jobs will go from Sanyo's Newton Aycliffe plant in County Durham, which employs 200 staff and for which Sanyo forecast in 1988 a staff of 500. The 80 people who work at the group's Thornaby-on-Tees site are not affected by the redundancies. The region suffered

another setback on Monday, when Hydro Fertilisers in south Humberside cut more than 200 jobs.

The waste of skills caused by

the rise in unemployment was also highlighted yesterday, when more than 100 unemployed people built a "human mountain" outside the European Commission's London offices. They handed in a protest letter to the commission and a petition to 10 Downing Street calling for action to tackle unemployment.

A spokesman for the Unemployed Centres, which organised the protest, said: "Just like the human mountain, we believe the human mountain of unemployment across Europe is a complete waste."



Goal in sight: Martin Edwards, left, and Robin Launders

Manchester United scores in City despite transfers

By JONATHAN PRYNN

MANCHESTER United, Britain's most profitable football club, announced a small drop in pre-tax profits after paying out £2.6 million on transfer fees for new players. The full-year figures pleased the City, which has a cautious approach to football clubs. The shares rose 7p to close at 289p.

Profits, before tax and player transfers, for the year to end July were up 24 per cent to £7.68 million on turnover up 13 per cent at £20.15 million.

But buying Peter Schmeichel, Paul Parker, Paul Ince and Andrei Kanchelski hit the bottom-line surplus by 6 per cent to £5.05 million. Transfer fees last year were £801,000.

Martin Edwards, chief execu-

tive, and Robin Launders, financial director, have put £250,000 of profits into the transfer fee reserve, a cushion of in case of big transfer fees in any financial year. The reserve is now £2.25 million.

The company had net cash of £14.8 million at the year end and has had its squad of 35 players and apprentices valued at £24 million by Touche Ross, the accountant. The player valuation will appear as a note to the balance sheet in the accounts.

A final 12p dividend makes

12p for the year compared with the 17.4p forecast in the prospectus issued at the flotation in June last year.

Meanwhile, Mrs Shephard

US drug approval lifts SB shares

By OUR CITY STAFF

SMITHKLINE Beecham, the Anglo-American pharmaceutical and consumer products group, announced it has advanced 18p to 48p on news that a US Food and Drug Administration advisory committee had recommended approval for its Paxil (paroxetine) antidepressant.

During clinical trials, Paxil was used for a broad range of patients from the moderately-to-severely depressed to those suffering from anxiety. Data showed that the drug was safer and more easily tolerated than other similar antidepressants.

Paxil is already marketed in some countries including Britain, Ireland, Sweden, the Netherlands and Germany.

Haemocell saw its shares surge 81p to 176p after the USM-quoted maker of medical and surgical equipment received FDA approval for the sale and marketing of its System 350 blood filtration system.

Stryker Instruments, the American medical instrument group, will proceed to market the product immediately.

Haemocell expects the FDA approval to have a dramatic impact on turnover and profits prospects.

David Mathew, Haemocell's chief executive, said the FDA's American approval for System 350, which is already on sale in Europe, will have a "really quite dramatic" effect on profits in due course.

This is a quantum leap", he said.

The recovery continued at Savage Group as the USM-quoted hardware company reaped the fruits of restructuring and returned to the dividend list.

The company made pre-tax profits of £2.02 million in the year to end-June, compared with a loss of £115,000 last time.

Tony Philipson, chief executive, said restructuring was complete and all losses had been eliminated. Turnover, affected by discontinued activities, fell to £73.5 million (£123.9 million), with turnover from continuing activities up 1 per cent to £69.4 million.

A dividend of 0.25p (nil) is proposed for the year. Earnings per share were 0.9p, against a loss of 5.4p.

MMI restarts full claim payments

By JONATHAN PRYNN, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

MUNICIPAL Mutual Insurance, the loss-making local authority insurer, resumed full payment of claims yesterday after a six-day moratorium.

MMI had ceased paying claims from local authorities after rescue takeover talks with a French insurer fell through. The move provoked chaos in the public liability insurance market, which MMI dominated, as local authorities sought to replace their cover.

Despite the resumption of claims payment, MMI still looks certain to be broken up and the future of its local authority business remains in doubt. Brian Wright, MMI chief executive, said a number of companies had expressed an interest in buying other parts of the group, including its household, motor, health, life and pensions operations.

MMI is continuing discussions with local authority associations over the local government portfolio and said it is keeping the DTI informed. "What Municipal Mutual now needs is a settled

period in which we can take these discussions forward," Mr Wright said.

The four main local authority associations last night gave "a cautious welcome" to the lifting of the moratorium. However, many local authorities are likely to remain sceptical about MMI's ability to renew cover and will continue to seek alternative arrangements in the open markets. Treasurers are reluctant to rely on MMI after being told last week that merger talks with GMF were proceeding even after the French company had said the deal was off.

The crisis at MMI left a vacuum in the market with insurers, with no claims records to base pricing on, unable to quote realistic rates to local authority treasurers.

More than 500 delegates from local authorities are meeting in London today to discuss the MMI saga. One option likely to be considered is setting up an insurance pool funded by local authorities to cover major risks.

Hurricanes blow a hole in M&G

By OUR INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THE hurricanes that wreaked devastation on Florida and Hawaii in recent weeks have left a £30 million hole in the accounts of Mercantile & General, the loss-making reinsurance subsidiary of Prudential Corporation.

The hurricane losses come on top of a further deterioration in the London market excess of loss (LMX) account written by the company. Last month, Prudential announced that M&G had lost £25 million in the first half of the year largely due to losses in the so-called LMX spiral.

Brave Raine honours its payout pledge

THE 9.4 per cent yield on shares in Raine Industries says much about what the stock market thinks of the £30 million acquisition of Walter Lawrence in March. So far, so unproven.

In its three months' contribution to the Raine results, a bid-disrupted Walter Lawrence made a loss of about £500,000, reducing Raine's pre-tax profit to £13.5 million for the year to end-June, 34 per cent down on the previous year. Peter Parkin, chief executive, says the former Walter Lawrence businesses are now responding to treatment. Others may prefer to wait for further evidence.

Walter Lawrence was paid for with the help of a £33 million rights issue at 95p. With earnings per share on the enlarged share capital falling from 10.3p to 6.1p, it was a brave decision by the Raine board to honour its pledge and pay an unchanged final dividend of 4p to make a just covered total of 6p.

Unless Walter Lawrence starts to perform, or the prospects for construction unexpectedly brighten, the decision may be even harder next year. As it is, Hall & Tawse, the construction arm, has done well to maintain its forward order book at £142 million.

The debt that came with the acquisition means that, despite the rights issue, Raine finished the year with net debt of £40.8 million, giving gearing of just under 35 per cent. Mr Parkin says he has grown accustomed to the luxury of low gearing. Given that he has just had a rights issue, keeping it that way is now dependent on the successful sale of about £28.9 million of assets identified in the wake of the acquisition as surplus to requirements.

Post-acquisition provisions of £23.5 million must have



Fresh outlook: John Jackson, the company doctor who has been brought in to advise Brown & Jackson

contributed to the financial health of the group's landbank of 5,865 plots, each of which has an average cost of only £11,400, just 17 per cent of the average £68,200 at which it sold 1,429 units last year.

To cover a maintained dividend this year, the company needs to make pre-tax profits of about £17.5 million. A price-earnings multiple of over 14 means the shares, despite the yield, look fully valued for now.

Brown & Jackson

IAN Gray, chief executive, and Robert Ellis, finance di-

rector of Brown & Jackson, have picked an interesting time to try to turn round a company that relies on the fickle tastes of consumers.

Poundstretcher stores may not have high overheads and they offer "no frills" goods that are as likely to sell in a recession as at any time. They have also found John Jackson, the ubiquitous company doctor, to advise on revival plans.

Mr Gray and Mr Ellis have made all the right noises, but the fact remains that the company they have inherited is in a mess. Losses before tax in the six months to June have doubled from £4.3 million to £9.7 million. Turnover is down from £79.9 million to £57.4 million. There is an

undiluted loss per share of 5.4p, compared with a loss of 4.1p, and a dividend of 0.1p.

Sales at Poundstretcher were 5 per cent lower in the first half of the year, and the company's hands were tied until the £15.6 million raised through a placing and open offer filtered through in late June. Sales volume and gross margin suffered.

But borrowings have been reduced by £10 million. About 52 Poundstretcher stores have been refitted and the remaining 180 stores will have had a facelift by September, 1993. Electronic point of sale facilities are being introduced. How long though will it take for the benefits of all of this to filter through? The

shares, down from 84p to 74p, are unlikely to see much upside for now, and Carr, Kitcas is looking at losses of £6 million for the year.

With the shares on a projected p/e of 10 for next year and fair smaller retailers making profits, even in the present environment, this could be a long haul.

Manchester United

TOTTENHAM Hotspur may not be much of a footballing force these days, but it still has the influence to queen the pitch of one of its main rivals. Matched against almost every standard investment yard-

stick, Manchester United shares look like winners. The company owns a respected brand name, and has cash in the bank, while the shares yield 8 per cent on a more than twice covered and rising dividend stream, and change hands on a single figure prospective multiple.

Even better, pre-season sales of season tickets, boxes and books mean that costs are covered only ten weeks into the current financial year.

On paper, it looks like a strong line-up. Pre-tax profits for the year to end-July were down 6 per cent at £5.05 million after heavy transfer fees and the debut dividend is 18p.

But since the flotation in June last year the shares have languished about 30 per cent below the issue 385p issue price. The reasons are not hard to fathom. The City's only previous meetings with quoted football clubs have all ended in heavy defeats.

The perception is that dependence on form on the field of play, heavy and compulsory capital expenditure requirements, endemic boardroom infighting and weak management make football club shares attractive only to the fan.

Manchester will undoubtedly continue to suffer from this image hangover. It may well take another two years of rising profits and on-pitch success before the company is judged on its financial merits rather than the past problems of its sector.

Profits and dividends are difficult to forecast because of the unpredictability of transfer fees, but analysts are looking for a surplus before player transfers of about £7.5 million and dividends of 20p. The shares are cheap on fundamentals but likely to remain so until the third division image of football club management improves.

Nikkei closes higher as losing streak ends

Tokyo — Shares broke a seven-day losing streak to end firmer. The market's calm reaction to sharp losses by overseas shares provided the basis for a futures-led technical rebound, brokers said. But with no fresh positive news, the market is still stuck in a narrow range, they added.

Shigenobu Akiba, of UBS Phillips & Drew, said: "Many people were afraid of a sharp fall, and they were encouraged that negative factors did not hit very hard. But that does not mean anybody is interested in chasing prices higher."

The Nikkei industrial average was up 166.6 points to 17,268.10, with an estimated 220 million shares traded.

□ Home Kong — The Hang Seng index fell 42.32 points, to 5,553.12 on weaknesses in major overseas markets, brokers said. Alan Au, a dealing manager at Seapower Securities, said: "Sentiment had already been dampened as the expected local interest rate cut did not materialise on Friday."

There is simply no major good news in the market."

The indicator plunged 154.84 points, touching a low of 5,440.6 ten minutes after the opening. Leading shares suffered most losses as investors scrambled to sell before prices fell.

□ Singapore — Prices ended lower with no new buying incentives and a late technical rebound in Tokyo failed to boost sentiment, brokers said.

The Straits Times Industrial Index fell 7.06 points to close at 1,332.56, with 167 falls and 39 rises. Volume was 30.28 million shares against 25.98 million at Monday's close.

□ Sydney — Shares closed comfortably above their lows of the day, but still plumbed a fresh 18-month closing low after another stormy night on overseas markets. The All Ordinaries index closed 14.7 points down at 1,452.4, after falling to as low as 1,447.9 in early trade, the lowest close since April 10, 1991. (Reuter)

Tight trading on Dow

New York — Leading shares ended in a narrow range at mildly soft levels in choppy mid-morning trading as some investors took advantage of Monday's lower prices and others moved to the sidelines.

After moving about 11 points higher off the open, the Dow Jones industrial average proceeded to decline an equal amount. By mid-morning, it was off fractionally at 3,177.65.

Traders said many investors were waiting to see if the Federal Reserve lowered interest rates following the Federal

Open Market Committee meeting, and what direction the market would take after Monday's volatility.

While the Dow wiped out its early gains, modest strength in the broad and secondary markets was sustained. In the broad market, advancing shares held a seven-to-six lead over declining shares.

□ Frankfurt — Shares ended in a thin session mixed around Monday's closing levels. The Dax index ended 4.1 points below Monday's close at 1,420.3, its lowest close since January 31, 1991. (Reuters)

Sterling's performance brings some cheer

SHARE prices regained some of their composure, cheered by a better performance from the pound against the mark on the world currency markets.

Prices started the day on a firm footing encouraged by the late rally overnight on Wall Street and the rise in Tokyo. The market grew in confidence as the session wore on with the FTSE 100 index closing at its best of the day, with a rise of 42.1 to 2,488.4. But it remains about 60 points lower over the two-day period.

The pound's rally against the mark was its biggest since it was deviated last month and has enabled investors to cling on to the faint hope that there is still scope for an early cut in bank base rates.

Most brokers were taking the view yesterday that Monday's setback, the biggest one-day fall since the October crash in 1987, had been overdone. But few investors were prepared to commit themselves to opening new positions ahead of the Chancellor's speech at the Tory party conference in Brighton tomorrow about the government's new economic policy.

Turnover remained thin with only 467 million shares changing hands. The bulk of the business was made up of market-makers arbitraging between the cash and futures

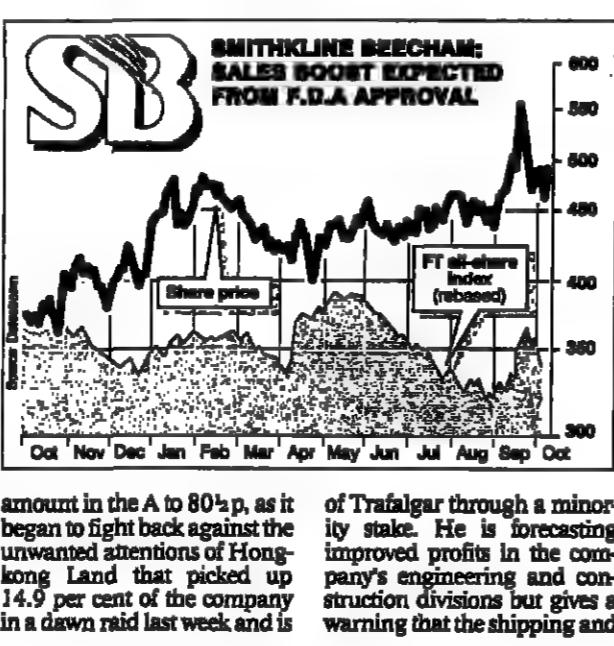
market in order to cover positions. Brokers said there was little genuine retail business.

Ranks Hovis McDougal, the Mothers Pride and Hovis food group, eased 1p to 240p, after briefly touching 234p, as the group continued to urge shareholders to reject the 220p a share offer from Hanson valuing the entire company at £780 million. By the close of business, a total of 5 million shares had changed hands.

The speculators are convinced Hanson will succeed where others have failed, but it will have to improve the terms. This is the third unwanted bid that RHM has received in the past four years. Unsuccessful attempts were also made by Goodman Fielder, Watie, the Australasian food group, and Sunningdale, a consortium headed by Sir James Goldsmith.

Hanson recovered some of its poise, firming 11p to 203p, helped by a buy recommendation from County NatWest, the stockbroker. County says that the bid for RHM is easily justified numerically and if it succeeds, will enhance Hanson's earnings.

Meanwhile, Trafalgar House firmed 4p to 84.2p in the ordinary, and a similar



amount in the A to 80p, as it began to fight back against the unwanted attentions of Hongkong Land that picked up 14.9 per cent of the company in a dawn raid last week and is

of Trafalgar through a minority stake. He is forecasting improved profits in the company's engineering and construction divisions but gives a warning that the shipping and

There were signs of a recovery at Lucas Industries, with the price climbing 6p to 92p amid vague talk of a bid from Siebe. Lucas is regarded as vulnerable, as full-year figures on Monday are expected to reveal pre-tax profits falling from £36 million to £30 million.

now making a tender offer for a further 15 per cent stake, raising its total holding to 29.9 per cent.

Sir Nigel Brookes, the chairman, accused Hongkong Land of trying to gain control

hotel subsidiaries will see lower profits, while the property side is expected to record a loss.

Babcock International was one of the big losers on the day, falling 9p to 41.5p after

Smith New Court, the stockbrokers, carried out a savage profit downgrading. It seems the group is continuing to feel the chill winds of recession.

SmithKline Beecham A rose 19p to 488p, helped by the announcement that PMS, its anti-depressant drug, had been granted approval by the American Food & Drug Administration.

James Culverwell, an analyst at Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, was excited by the news, claiming that the drug could generate annual sales of £350 million within four years.

Haemocell, the USM quoted maker of health and service equipment, surged 81p to 176p. The group has been given the go-ahead by the FDA to market System 350, its blood filtration unit.

Bid speculation continued to drive Owners Abroad, the holiday package operator, sharply higher with the price finishing 6p better at 77p. The group now admits that it received a tentative approach some weeks ago, but talks failed to progress and no proposal has been received.

Earlier this week, there was talk that rival Airtricity, which has enjoyed a rapid rise to fame, had been looking at acquiring Owners. Airtricity ended 6p better at 246p. The drinks sector is starting

to show signs of being oversold in recent weeks. Turnbull, the stockbroker, started the ball rolling by recommending Bass, 19p better at 536p.

There were also gains for Allied Lyons, the target of a number of profit downgrades recently, 23p to 599p, Grand Metropolitan 19p to 379p, Scottish & Newcastle 7p to 406p, and Whitbread A 7p to 405p.

The water companies enjoyed selective institutional support as their yo-yo performance continued after last week's order by Ofwat for them to cut charges.

Anglian advanced 6p to 430p, Northumbrian 3p to 503p, North West 5p to 442p, Southern 3p to 409p, Thames 7p to 441p, Welsh 1p to 464p, and Wessex 3p to

515p.

Prudential spent a volatile session clawing back an early fall to finish 9p up on the day at 259p. The group's insurance subsidiary, Mercantile & General, has announced it is taking a tough line on the renewal of general re-insurance business. The group also spoke to a number of analysts and fund managers yesterday in an attempt to get its message across.

The drinks sector is starting

MICHAEL CLARK

Woodhead spells out his thoughts for future of Fox

By JON ASHWORTH



Woodhead: opportunity

history. "The difficulties of the past year have been largely resolved and there is now an obvious opportunity to expand on the primary assets of the exchange, principally its central role in international commodity trading. I am delighted to take up such an interesting and challenging role at a time when there are significant changes in the world financial order." Mr

Woodhead, who has a wide knowledge of commodity markets, said Fox had reached a pivotal stage in its

Woodhead, a lawyer who spent part of his childhood in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, founded the International Petroleum Exchange in 1981 and went on to form the National Investment Group, a network of regional stockbrokers, in 1986. He sold out to Cap-Eurex Myers in 1989 and has spent much of the past two years in South Africa, where he has a share in a game farm in Natal.

He takes over from Phillip Thorpe, deputy chief executive of the SEA, who has been acting as caretaker for the past year. Michael Jenkins, chief executive of the London International Financial Futures Exchange, was appointed non-executive chairman of London Fox in April.

Mr Thorpe, a barrister born in New Zealand, is a former deputy commissioner for securities in Hong Kong where he was seconded to reform the Hong Kong Futures Exchange in the aftermath of the October 1987 stock market crash. Mr Jenkins retires from Liffe this year after an association going back 11 years.

Rises:

Loyds 435p (+13p)

Standard Chart 445p (+23p)

Allied Lyons 589p (+13p)

Grand Met 379p (+19p)

Highland Distl 201p (+10p)

Incitope 465p (+12p)

SA Breweries 668p (+20p)

Wat 527p (-22p)

Geest 303p (-13p)

Smithfield 515p (+10p)

MB-Caradon 239p (+13p)

Closing Prices Page 22

Globe 757p (+20p)

Marka Spencer 318p (+11p)

Elac Data Process 465p (+50c)

Cadbury-Schweppes 422p (+16p)

COMMENT Trafalgar needs ally not raider

For shareholders in Trafalgar House, the best outcome of Hongkong Land's tender offer would be for the powerful property group to gain a big enough stake to be a serious long-term partner without gaining the full 29.9 per cent it seeks. That would bring effective control, depriving shareholders of a potential bid premium from a third party. Sir Eric Parker, Trafalgar's embattled chief executive, had hoped to tie up most of the uncertainties surrounding the group, including its borrowings, its divestment strategy, its run-in with the Financial Reporting Review Panel over accounting, and possibly even its boardroom structure and management succession, by the beginning of December, when the results for the year to end September should be announced.

He was not allowed that time. Two important elements are, however, already clear. First, a commitment by HK Land is thoroughly good for the group's shaky image and should help remove the air of management drift faster than any number of conventional non-executive directors. Second, Trafalgar is worth a lot more than the £600 million implied by HK Land's 85p per share tender offer if those intangible uncertainties are swept away.

The core engineering and construction business formed from John Brown and Davy may have raised its operating profits from £60 million to nearer £75 million. There is evidently plenty more to come from integrating Davy and from the momentum that the combination is attaining. Judged by the fancy ratings accorded to rivals, this advanced world-class business could be worth £600 million alone as a free-standing equity, comfortably more if the civil engineering businesses are thrown in.

Even at present depressed asset prices, Matthew Sutherland of County Natwest cautiously suggests a realisable value of about 110p, without counting much for the property and housebuilding businesses. If Trafalgar's knights could bring themselves to sell Cunard as well the Ritz group hotels, which may still be worth about £140 million, they might wipe out the group's debt completely and exposing value and potential. As it is, the City remains sceptical, leaving Trafalgar shares at the tender price.

They are unlikely to remain there. Private investors should stick with their shares and leave big institutions to split the future profits by offering HK Land a few of theirs.

On the rebound

Sterling's see-saw behaviour continued yesterday with a 6 pfennig rise against the mark, making up all of the ground lost on Monday and more besides. In part, the rise was technical, with the pound caught in the slipstream of a dollar fast rebounding against the mark and helped additionally by short covering. But the fact that sterling did not encounter fresh short selling indicates two probabilities:

First, with no apparent central bank intervention, what has so far been a relatively clean float, dealers are becoming wary of forever selling the pound. It is looking increasingly cheap on fundamentals. Huge amounts of money can be lost on the second leg of a "spike" when markets realise a fall is overdone and bear closing accelerates the rise.

Second, speculators and traders wish to be less exposed during the period of the Conservative party conference. At least some outline of how the economic policy vacuum is to be filled will almost certainly emerge. Unless that policy is inept even by present standards the pound is likely to benefit. It could do so considerably if draconian spending cuts are forecast not as a policy in itself but as a key part of the inflation strategy to replace the ERM.

Martin Waller reports on how two electronics rivals are seeking the ears and minds of music consumers with the latest technology

An American humorist, weary of the hype surrounding the launch of compact discs a few years ago, said she would happily buy the new product if they promised they would never invent another.

Such a promise was made to be broken, and at least three attempts have been made since. One became entangled in the record industry's obsession with private taping; the two survivors hope to be banishing it out at this Christmas.

One uphill task facing any manufacturer launching a product on to the crowded consumer electronics market, made all the more difficult at a time of recession, is to persuade the customer that he or she needs another gadget whose lack they have not yet felt. A second is to ensure that once the gadget is bought there is also the software, in the form of recordings, to play on it.

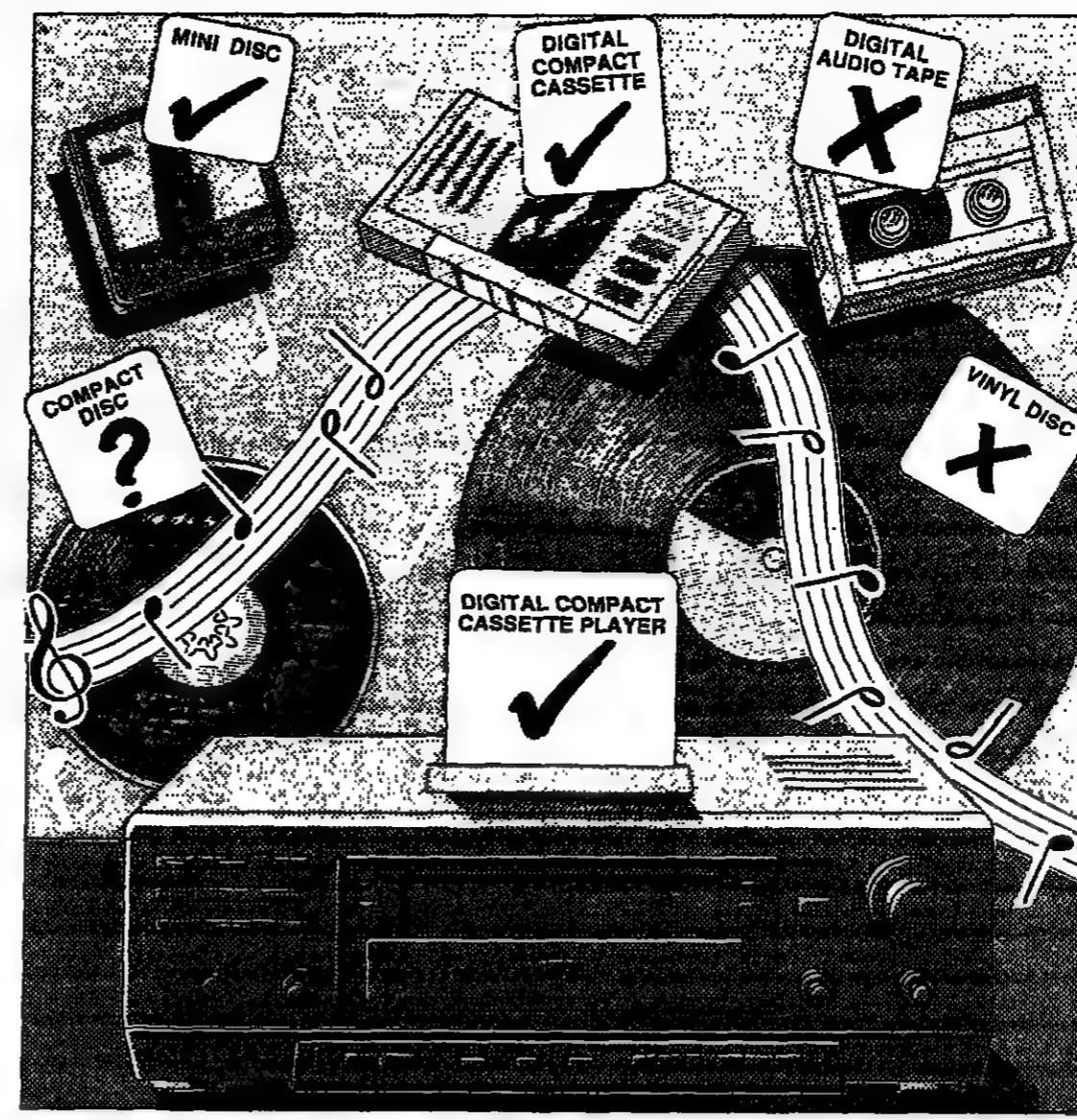
The development of consumer electronics is littered with evolutionary dead ends, technical marvels that were potential world-beaters but that lost out to rivals often worse in quality terms. Early video recorders came in three formats: one now largely forgotten, a second, Betamax, that remains the staple of the broadcasting industry because of its technical excellence, and the winner, the now ubiquitous VHS system.

The start of in-car stereo two decades ago threw up the barely remembered 8-track, a curious and cumbersome beast that lingered on for a while even after the familiar audio cassette had established its ascendancy. If the pundits are right, at least one other product is set to join the ranks of the dinosaur and the sabre-toothed tigers of audio history.

Last month, Philips will launch in the Netherlands, Germany, France and Britain the digital compact cassette (DCC). The device has been available for a fortnight in Japan, the home of its bitter rival, Sony's MiniDisc.

The MiniDisc should reach Japanese shops by November and become available across Europe through December. Neither system is compatible with the other, naturally, although Philips has the edge in fitting in with at least some of the existing technology.

The systems stem directly from the success of the compact disc format, which a decade ago offered digital sound quality to the listening public for the first time. Initially, there was consumer resistance to a system that was set to make existing vinyl record collections obsolete; consumer resistance is a normal and healthy reaction to the launch of any new gadget. By this year, when the biggest chains of music stores in Britain had effectively stopped stocking vinyl in



quantity, CDs had established clear ascendancy. Vinyl will remain the province of the sentimentalists and the collector.

The CD succeeded not least because of enhanced sound quality but also because of greater convenience. CDs run for longer, damage less easily and are easier to store and carry than the 12-inch record.

The two new formats are an attempt to wean the public off the traditional audio cassette, an analogue recording medium, and on to a digital recording system that is up with CDs for sound quality. There is no special advantage in convenience terms, and this may prove to be a telling weakness: the new products are no more "user friendly" than audio cassettes or CDs.

Philips' DCC may make or break the ailing Dutch giant, the largest surviving player in the once-great European consumer electronics industry. The DCC resembles the existing audio cassette, and crucially, the DCC player will play traditional cassettes — this so-called "backwards compatibility" is one reason why optimists at Philips believe the DCC market could grow three times faster than the CD.

Philips, the original inventor of the CD and the cassette, needs all the help it can get these days. The company has issued two profits warnings in recent weeks and is in the throes of a ruthless restructuring programme to lose as many as 55,000 jobs after slipping into a £1.3 billion loss in 1990. Nerves are highly stretched ahead of the DCC launch, and news of delays have been greeted with dismay.

The company says it was in the process of sending all British dealers a demonstration model and the product will be shown off at a stand at the Motor Show in Birmingham on October 20.

Sony's MiniDisc is aimed squarely at the portable market, and the first ranges on sale will be Walkman-type models and a car stereo version, both recordable and playback only. The product looks like a smaller compact disc, about 2½ inches in diameter.

Sony is regarded as one of the marketing miracle workers of the modern world. The Walkman, one of the most successful product debuts in consumer electronics, was dreamt up, according to industry legend, by Akio Morita, chairman, in desperation at having to listen to his children's pop music at home.

But Sony has stumbled twice in recent memory. The group was behind the Betamax video format and also pioneered digital audio tape (DAT), the last attempt to create a

digital recording system to sit alongside the CD player. DAT, little more than half the size of an ordinary cassette, was set for launch early in 1987 when it ran into opposition from record companies convinced it would be used to create the perfect copy of the CD. Interminable legal wrangling ensued, and DAT missed out on mass-market penetration.

The format did catch on with the professionals, though, and has established a useful niche market among broadcasters as standard issue for radio reporters, for example, while some hi-fi buffs swear by the £500 plus recorders that are on the market.

A repeat of DAT is the last thing Sony needs, therefore, while much of Philips' future hangs on DCC. Little surprise that the two are barely on speaking terms, and the most vociferous argument is over the software, the recordings that will become available in the new formats. Philips is contemptuous of Sony's claims that top record companies are supporting the MiniDisc; the Dutch group, owner of the Polygram record label, is allied with Matsushita, the biggest electronics company in the world, which owns the MCA label and will produce the hardware under its Technics brand. Matsushita is, of course, one of Sony's head-to-head competitors in the electronics market.

DCC is claimed to have 500

recordings already signed up, including the usual pop and rock superstars. Sony, which owns the CBS label, claims a library of 300. Unsurprisingly, no in-house labels are making themselves available in the rival format. Other big players such as Warner and the German Bertelsmann combine favour DCC or, as with Thorn EMI, now owner of Virgin Records, are keeping a foot in both camps.

Just where the proud owner of a new DCC or MiniDisc system will find the software remains a key question. WH Smith, owner of the Our Price music chain, the country's biggest, and the controller of a 25 per cent share of the recorded music market that has as yet escaped the attention of the competition authorities, says it has no plans to take either DCCs or MiniDiscs. "It's something that is going to have to be thought about very carefully, if and when a decision is taken," said a spokesman. "We're not going to expand shops because of a new product."

Dixons Group, Britain's biggest electrical retailer which plans to stock both systems has a firm agreement with Philips to launch DCC next month but, tellingly, is not so confident of having MiniDisc in the shops until next year, after the Christmas rush, although Sony is insistent the mid-December deadline can be met. A failure to do so will cost the format dear.

The music retailers are already greatly relieved at the painless death of vinyl, gradually phased out with our much public outcry to provide further space for more expensive CDs and cassettes. If either or both new formats takes off with the customer, however, the software will have to be sold somewhere. Less popular CDs and cassettes will have to be shunted off the shelves to provide the necessary retail space, so reducing consumer choice and cutting back even further the number of titles available in the average high street, as opposed to in specialist shops and town centre megastores.

A further hideous threat looms over the record industry. CD, the primary music source, and DCC, both primarily source and recorder and portable to boot, are natural complements. MiniDisc is a hybrid CD-recorder, also portable. Despite Sony's insistence in marketing it as a super-Walkman, MiniDisc could therefore theoretically supplant both CD and DCC; the industry would then be forced to explain to the 45 per cent of households in Britain that own a CD player that their product is now obsolete. The chances of selling the next wave, post-MiniDisc, after such a debacle would seem limited.

"The CD will be the dominant format well into the next century," Mark Kingston, spokesman for the International Federation of the Photographic Industry, says reassuringly. He is disinclined to support any of the new digital recording formats. "If I was a consumer, which I am, I would be buying none of them. If they can make a recordable minidisc, then how long before a fully recordable CD comes on to the market?"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY



Diplomacy in the air

THERE was applause and much speculation at the Savoy yesterday as public adversaries Lord King and Richard Branson posed together for photographers. The two were attending the luncheon for *Business Traveller* magazine's 1992 awards but what all those in attendance really wanted to know was whether the joint photograph meant that the law suits between Virgin and British Airways, alleging libel and dirty tricks, were now off. "Oh hostilities. People love to talk about such things," said a relaxed King. Branson, by contrast, seemed less inclined to be convivial. "It's like soldiers in the first world war having Christmas pudding together on Christmas day before resuming fighting," he confided. "The law suit's going ahead and we'll be in court on January 11." Branson also revealed he had brought along "a little present" for King — a packet of indigestion tablets. "I thought he might need them sitting next to me," he quipped. In the event, diplomacy prevailed. Each company won a BAFTA for best overall airline and Virgin for best for business class.



Old flames
LEAVING a trail of broken hearts across the City, Beryl "Bebe" King has finally given up the single state. King, in her forties and an institutional dealer at Laurence Keen for the past 23 years, is on honeymoon in Brittany after tying

Full cream milk

UBS Phillips & Drew knows a well-connected graduate when it sees one. As part of this year's intake from the university milk round, the firm has named one Natasha Clarke, from Durham university, as a trainee in its corporate finance

department. Clarke, 22, and just back from a diving expedition in Australia, Fiji and Hawaii, is, it transpires, the daughter of Christopher Clarke, deputy chairman of the investment division of fund management group Henderson Administration, and head of all UK investment. Family friend Mark Bannister, ex-Morgan Stanley, is quick to point out that Natasha did not make use of her paternal connection to land the job. "Her father didn't even know she was looking for a City job until after she got it," he says.

Down under

JUST weeks after sweeping redundancies at Barings, the merger of Barings-Australian broking arm yesterday, the merged Barings-Australian broking arm yesterday, has made for another sad casualty in London. Tom Ferrend, 25, has been "let go" by McIntosh, after it decided that the merger called for a Barings man on board in London. Jamie Taylor thus moves across from Barings to McIntosh for three years, where he handled European sales of Australian equities. loses his job. Ken Thompson, head of McIntosh's UK office, admits it is "tough" on Ferrend. "He's diligent, loyal and knows his job. That's what's tragic." Meanwhile, Ferrend, who discovered Australia on holiday after leaving Milton Abbey school in 1986, hopes someone wants a bright young salesman with his head full of Aussie stocks.

CAROL LEONARD

Analysing the row with Germany

From A.A.W. Landymore and P.G. Brangwyn.

Sir, We must all agree with the prime minister that a line has to be drawn under the row which has beset Anglo-German relations. But before that line is finally drawn, *The Times*, as a principal journal of record, has a duty to future historians.

The analysis of the Treasury-Bundesk bank dispute in the annotated chart in your issue of October 2 puts things mainly in terms of official statements and actions of the Bundesbank and of Dr Schlesinger in particular. Yet there was no dearth of hints, opinions and comments, attributable and unattributable, emanating from other sources in the Bundesbank in the run-up to these events, as summed up by Anatole Kaliesky, the author of the article below the chart.

The effects of these other sources should not be ignored. The two elements need to be brought together in terms of international money market behaviour. The relevant rules appear to be: (a) to give credence to the statements and leaks of the stronger party and (b) to pay special attention to passages included in advance press copies but omitted from speeches as delivered; (c) to cast doubt on any denials or corrective statements from the same sources; and (d) to treat any statements by the weaker party with scepticism. It is reasonable to infer that the statements documented by Mr Kaliesky had far more influence on the fate of the pound than anything said or unsaid by Dr Schlesinger, except when it came to the *fait accompli*.

As regards the charges of malice, the Bundesbank has to be given the benefit of the doubt. But if finally there is to be an independent European Central Bank, it is to be hoped that it will be endowed with less naivety about money market behaviour than the Bundesbank has shown.

Yours faithfully,
A.A.W. LANDYMORE
and P.G. BRANGWYN.
Gotham Wood House,
Sandhurst Lane,
Whydow,
Bexhill-on-Sea,
East Sussex.

Values that served the Victorians well

From P.J. Harrod

Sir, Mildred Bateman's recommendation (*Business Letters*, September 29) to Dr J.D. Jackson that he forgive his son repayment of his loan is superficially appealing. However, is not this suggestion a product of the "easy-come, easy-go" society that has proved so damaging to Britain? When my great grandfather, Charles Harrod, decided to retire from the small grocery business that he had founded, he did not give it

Yours faithfully,
P.J.B. HARROD.
Merlebank,
Knowle Grove,
Virginia Water, Surrey.

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No	Company	Group	Gains or losses
1	T P & O Dist	Transport	
2	National Grid	Water	
3	Amerchert	Chem. Plus	
4	BAA	Transport	
5	Steel Barrill	Insurance	
6	Enterprise	Oil & Gas	
7	Peppal	Industrial	
8	Scott & New	Breweries	
9	Smith & Neph	Industrial	
10	Lions	Motors/Air	
11	Fox Leisure	Leisure	
12	Manweb	Electricity	
13	Storehouse	Drapery/Sts	
14	Cat Site Ests	Properties	
15	Booz	Industrial	
16	Gr Ferdinand	Property	
17	Medeva	Industrial	
18	HITV Group	Leisure	
19	Seaboard	Electronics	
20	Dixons Grp	Drapery/Sts	
21	Sth Western	Electrical	
22	Rugby Group	Building/Bds	
23	Ved	Drapery/Sts	
24	Siron Grp	Business Serv	
25	Airtours	Leisure	
26	Cable Wires	Electrical	
27	Priory	Electrical	
28	Color Grp	Oil & Gas	
29	Rever Hotels	Holiday/Cat	
30	NFC	Transport	
31	Asprey	Drapery/Sts	
32	Royal	Insurance	
33	NMW Compte	Business Serv	
34	Perkins Food	Foods	
35	Southern Elec	Electrical	
36	Nutri Foods	Foods	
37	Thames Water	Water	
38	Gfesa	Mining	
39	THORN EMI	Electrical	
40	Crown Par "A"	Industrial	
41	The Times Newspapers Ltd.	Total	

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If you have ticked off your eight share in our Match The Shares prize today, claim your prize by telephoning 020-853372 between 10.00am and 1.30pm (see the Sunday Times for full details).

The winner of the Portfolio Plus prize of £2000 was James Miner of Norton Road, London.

1992 High Low Company Price Net Div % P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP						
120	ABP	ABP	29	47	102	
121	Allied Irish	AI	29	67	151	
122	Amidex	AMIDEX	10	12	10	
123	Amex New	AMEX	10	12	10	
124	Bankers Trust	BT	24	26	24	
125	Barclays Bank	BB	12	12	12	
126	Barclays Plc	BP	12	12	12	
127	BNP	BNP	12	12	12	
128	Deutsche Bank	DB	12	12	12	
129	Edwards	EDW	12	12	12	
130	First Direct	FD	12	12	12	
131	HSBC	HSBC	12	12	12	
132	ICI	ICI	12	12	12	
133	Imperial Chemical Inds	ICI	12	12	12	
134	Investec	INVESTEC	12	12	12	
135	Leeds Building Soc	LB	12	12	12	
136	London Coop	LC	12	12	12	
137	Midland Bank	MB	12	12	12	
138	NatWest	NW	12	12	12	
139	Prudential	PRU	12	12	12	
140	Standard Chartered	SC	12	12	12	
141	Swiss Re	SR	12	12	12	
142	Telewest	TW	12	12	12	
143	Trustco	TC	12	12	12	
144	UK Building Soc	UBS	12	12	12	
145	Westpac	WB	12	12	12	
146	Woolwich	WOOLWICH	12	12	12	
147	Yardley	YD	12	12	12	
148	Zurich	ZURICH	12	12	12	
149	ABP	ABP	12	12	12	
150	Barclays	BCS	12	12	12	
151	BSkyB	BSKYB	12	12	12	
152	Chase	CHASE	12	12	12	
153	Chase Manh	CM	12	12	12	
154	Chase	CHASE	12	12	12	
155	Chase First	CF	12	12	12	
156	Chase Securities	CS	12	12	12	
157	Chase Securities	CS	12	12	12	
158	Chase Securities	CS	12	12	12	
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225	Chase Securities	CS	12	12	12	
226	Chase Securities	CS	12	12	12	
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EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The no-fuss single market

Britain has led the way in opening up Europe's networks and services to the private sector. Peter Purton assesses the changes

In telecommunications at least, the single market is already here. Europe's networks and services have come a long way in a very short time. Only ten years ago, monopolies, most of them government departments staffed by civil servants, had complete control over the continent's telecommunications. Today, there is hardly a country left where there is not at least some private involvement. In some countries, the private sector is in complete control.

Throughout this process Britain has played a leading role. The first moves towards an open telecommunications market in this country came in 1980, when the intention was announced to split the General Post Office, the GPO, into the Royal Mail, a service for delivering parcels and letters, and British Telecom. At the same time, the government announced its intention of ending BT's monopoly of the supply of telecommunications equipment and the offering of services.

In 1981, the telecommunications bill setting up the legal base for the government's intended reforms was given the Royal Assent. By 1982 a second leading network operator, Mercury Communications, had been licensed, and plans to privatise BT and to create an independent regulator, Ofcom, were announced.

By 1985, not only was there a second fixed-telephone network in operation in Britain, but there were also two mobile-telephone networks and over 70 operators of value-added network services. The market for telecommunications equipment was, by then, completely open, as were the markets for service and maintenance.

Most of the rest of Europe has taken a little longer to arrive at the same or sometimes a lesser degree of liberalisation in telecommunications. Initially, every country adopted its own approach to liberalisation. It was not long before the European Commission saw the approaching chaos and intervened. Its first great landmark was its green paper on telecommunications published in 1987.

In this the commission set out its strategy for co-ordinating the liberalisation message to create a single European telecommunications market. Since 1987, it has employed persuasion techniques to



Child's play: the market for mobile telephones has been liberalised in most countries

break many of the monopolies which used to be enjoyed by the national telecommunications administrations. It also tackled problems such as lack of resources for standards creation and the performance testing and approval of telecommunications equipment.

The commission has managed to make the large public network operators, who still account for the biggest part of the telecommunications equipment market, purchase through open public tendering. The European market for simple terminal equipment, such as telephones and fax machines, is now completely open. The market for more complex terminals, such as office telephone systems, is open in most countries.

On the services side, the market for mobile telephony has been liberalised in most countries. Even in those where competition is not yet allowed, liberalisation is

Prices have risen and Britain is the most expensive for phone bills

open depends on which country you look at and how you read the regulations.

Satellite communications technologies, such as very small aperture terminal (VSAT) systems, have been opened up in the main European countries, as well as in several smaller ones. This may turn out to be a very significant step, since satellites promise the opportunity to bypass local fixed-network operators completely. They can also handle a range of different signals. They can cope with everything from low-rate data through to broadcast quality television, and can provide economical alternatives to a range of services, from point-to-point leased lines to personal communications networks.

The restrictions that remain on access to telecommunications markets are mainly on basic telecommunications services, specifically the carrying of the information, and on voice communications, the two core revenue generators for the national carriers. But even here inroads have been made. In Germany, the previous block on private companies offering voice links via satellite was lifted to help improve communications between the former East and West Germanies. The dispensation was said to be temporary, but few believe that it

will be easy to reimpose restrictions.

The effects of European Community telecommunications policy have also extended beyond the community. Sweden has mirrored EC policies with its own telecommunications regulatory reforms. In 1990, it became the second country in Europe to allow competition in the long-distance telecommunications network. In the past few weeks Finland announced its intention of introducing competition in long-distance and local networks.

In Britain, more or less all the remaining restrictions on entering the telecommunications network operating business have been lifted. As a result of the new policy introduced by the government last year, over 30 companies or consortia have bid to receive licences to operate telephone networks, and most of the country's 51 cable-television network operators are either planning or already offering telephone services on their cable broadcast networks.

They say they offer a discount of at least 10 per cent on BT rates, and BT sources admit that in areas where cable television is offering telephone services, they expect to lose almost a third of their business.

Few doubt that the introduction of competition to telecommunications has improved service quality. In London in the early 1980s many exchanges were pre-war electro-mechanical designs. Today Britain is close to becoming the first leading country in the world with a completely digital public telephone network.

One area where the benefits of competition policy have not yet been proved, however, is that of lower prices. Despite predictions that more competition would inevitably result in lower costs, prices and tariffs have been falling equally quickly in countries with liberal and not so liberal regimes. Britain's prices have been steadily rising up the table of countries. Of Western Europe's principal countries, it is now the most expensive for its average telephone bill.

This does not necessarily mean that competition does not lead to lower prices than monopolies. It might just mean that even the threat of depriving a monopoly of its privileges can be a very strong motivation to providing customers with a better deal.

Commuting to the front room

Following a pilot scheme in Inverness in which ten British Telecom directory enquiry operators volunteered to answer callers using special terminals installed in their own homes, the company has offered thousands of its junior and professional staff the chance to become "teleworkers".

Linked to their offices by telephone, personal computers and facsimile machines, staff will be able to do their jobs without ever leaving home. For these people, commuting will become a matter of walking down the hall.

BT estimates that by 1995 about 2.25 million Britons will be working from home, and the Henley Centre for Forecasting predicts ten million.

Teleworking also has quantifiable benefits for employers

furnish direct contact with the operators' supervisor and, during breaks, allow them to chat to each other or catch up on the office gossip.

A big expansion in the number of teleworkers could come with increased awareness among employers of the advantages. The Mercury Gallup survey, for example, indicates that, of those companies which at present do not have any teleworkers, most know virtually nothing about the concept.

Britain has an international lead in telecommuting. The Inverness trial is being managed by a BT research team led by Mike Gray. "We want to develop support systems to ease the changes in lifestyles," Mr Gray says. "This experiment is unique."

JOHN WILLIAMSON

• The author is the international editor of *Telephony*.



A pilot's view of the world, knowing that whatever destination the travel destination, it will always be within a kilometre or so of her way. Given that she began life in the 1920s, the pilot's global destination is her.

Does the key to globalisation lie in how much territory you cover or how well you cover it?

Notice how every communications supplier is trying to outshout another about how many offices it has around the world?

At AT&T, we believe it's what we can do for you at our offices that makes us an effective resource, not just that we do business in over 130 countries. What matters most is the quality of relationships we've built over many years with local telephone companies, and the experience we've gained from that.

Our international network, for example, handles over a billion calls a year. We're also working with nations that are busy building the infrastructures that support global communications. And we have the R&D resources of AT&T Bell Laboratories and the financial strength that enable us to make long-term commitments to new markets.

How to tell global claims apart? Look for the company that's more interested in how well your offices around the world are doing rather than its own.





To help progress in the East, Europe's No. 1 telecommunications company has put its extra-terrestrial connections to work.

successor to the former Soviet Union, needs support in numerous areas. And it needs access to the established market economies. A prerequisite for that is a functioning telecommunications infrastructure. Just how damaging the lack of one

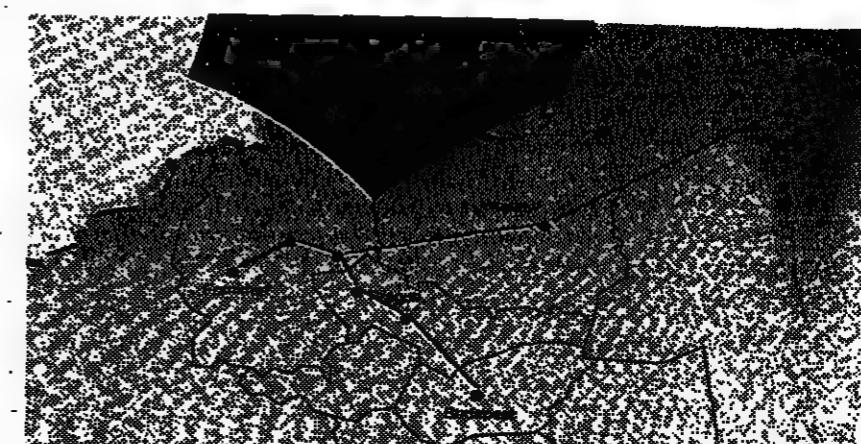
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can be to a country's economy has been amply demonstrated in the former GDR. Today, Telekom is making a significant contribution to the new era of cooperation: together with other partners from German industry, we have created the ROMANTIS project to help the CIS develop a satellite-supported communications network to connect its member countries both to each other and to the West's telephone network. From 1995, a total of 3 million lines should be in place. But Telekom involvement goes further. With the TEL (Trans-Europe Line) project, we are planning a fibre optics cable that goes from Frankfurt via Prague to Warsaw, Budapest, Moscow and the Baltic States. Those are just two examples of how Telekom is helping Eastern Europe to gain access to the industrialised nations of the West: all in the interest of economic recovery and improved relations. So if you have challenging communications problems to solve, talk to Europe's largest telecommunications company - Telekom.

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Deutsche Post

By Christmas a cheap videophone will allow callers to see and be seen over ordinary lines, Paul Chambers reports

Smile! You're on the phone

A cheap videophone is about to appear on the shelves of electrical retailers in the United Kingdom, probably in time for Christmas, if all goes to plan. Its maker, Marconi Electronics of Breckinbridge, Hertfordshire, hopes it will be accepted for use in other countries as well. This could one day make it possible for ordinary telephone subscribers all round the world to see each other at the same time as they talk.

Videotelephony has been around for some time in the form of videoconferencing. This enables company executives to talk to each other, see each other and share pictures of documents without leaving their home base, and got a big boost during the Gulf war. Companies were frightened about sending executives on aircraft, and videoconferencing boomed.

The trouble is that videoconferencing for businesses has been expensive. Typically, executives go to a dedicated studio and use equipment designed to work over the most modern digital telephone networks. There are individual digital videotelephones, used to bring executives into videoconferences if they cannot make it to the studio, but they cost between £8,000 and £15,000.

The new videophones are different. They are cheaper because they do not have a connection to digital networks and are designed to work over ordinary "analogue" telephone networks. The one made by Marconi Electronics will cost about £400 (\$750) in the United States. The other, by AT&T, the American operator and equipment maker,

The potential is huge — some estimates put it at \$500 million in five years' time

costs \$1,499 to buy or \$30 a day to rent.

The potential market is huge — some estimates put it at \$500 million in five years' time — so there has been a race to bring the analogue videophone to market. AT&T got there first, launching its product at the beginning of this year. Marconi previewed its product at a trade show in Geneva last year, but did not release it until very recently.

The Marconi product, a home-grown spin-off from its military work, measures 7in by 9in, incorporates modem telephone func-

tions and costs \$1,499 to buy or \$30 a day to rent.

As part of its drive for supremacy, Marconi is talking to other operators both in Europe and the Far East about distributing its videophone. Dexter Smith, the company spokesman, says: "We have ongoing discussions in continental Europe and the Far East." He says more agreements could come "relatively soon", though he will not say whether that means this year or next.

AT&T is playing down the significance of the Marconi move into the US. Dominic Fry, a company spokesman, says: "We were first into the market. It is gratifying to see other people sharing our vision that people will want to communicate visually in future."

On price, he says: "It is all to do with people having a choice. If you look around the car park, you see different cars, people pay different prices for. Our research indicates consumers are rejecting lower-quality videophone technology at lower prices."

AT&T itself could export its technology abroad. It has said it wants to enter the European market. But Mr Fry says it recently



In the picture: doctors can consult their colleagues and exchange visual information over long distances using videotelephones

ment on the state of possible plans to sell its own videophone in Europe.

There are still technical issues to be sorted out. At a show in Hanover in March, for example, Mike Zeaman, the company's district public relations manager (consumer products), said it was thought the videophone would need modification for operation in Germany. Otherwise, the network operated by Deutsche Bundespost Telekom might filter out some parts of the signal.

Marconi claims the modifications needed to connect its own

videophone in the US have been "tiny little circuit changes". It denies there is any subsidy involved in bringing down the price of its videophone. Mr Smith claims that the Marconi price advantage over the AT&T videophone comes from the fact that the videophone components are "derived from technologies we already have some mastery of".

Richard Couldhardt, another spokesman for Marconi, says: "The whole art of what our engineers are good at is designing for affordability. We can produce for £150 what everybody else can

produce for £300." He too denies there is a subsidy involved. "We have to turn out the lights when we leave the office," he says.

Naturally, the arrival of the analogue videophone does not spell danger for digital videophones. The two products are conceived for totally different markets. The person buying a digital videophone gets higher quality, though he or she buys a more expensive product, says Dave Hughes, BT's product manager of cordless and digital phones and answering machines.

Moreover, the price of digital videophones is set to come down.

too. "We expect that the price of a digital videophone in 1995 will be about £1,000," says Tom Doyle, director of GPT Video and ISDN Systems. The company is based in Maidstone, and is a division of GPT, of Beeston in Nottinghamshire.

There could in future be mass-market versions of digital videophones as the integrated services digital network spreads around the world. One thing is certain: the analogue videophone will have a pioneering role in bringing video-communications to the mass market.

Supercarriers shape up for battle

Global alliances are forming between telecom giants for corporate markets

Several of the world's more ambitious telecommunications operators are gearing up to transform themselves into global "supercarriers", offering sophisticated, end-to-end services to international corporate customers anywhere in the world. Analysts believe that only three or four such entities will dominate the lucrative market for international private networking by the turn of the century.

The notion of the supercarrier has appeared in the pages of analysts' reports for some time now, but the drive by telephone companies to capture the private network business of customers at home and abroad has only recently started to move the concept towards reality. Providing and managing international corporate networks — known as "outsourcing" — could be big business for the telephone operators. At present, corporations spend about \$3 billion running their own international networks, and the market is growing at between 15 and 20 per cent annually.

There are two elements to the international outsourcing equation, both involving competition. On the carrier side, the introduction of service competition in an increasing number of countries has reduced the incumbent operators' market and revenues and persuaded some to target high-spending international corporations by way of compensation.

From the corporate customer's point of view, the globalisation of markets in many industrial and



At the hub: the Syncordia network control centre in Atlanta, Georgia, in the United States

commercial sectors is both a cause and an effect of greater competition. One response for a growing number of enterprises is to concentrate on their basic business and to hive off other activities, including telecommunications, to subcontractors.

International outsourcing moved into a higher gear last October when BT announced the formation of Syncordia. BT already provided managed data network services through its wholly-owned Global Network Services (GNS) business, but the new venture was to have a much wider remit, including Telekom of Germany and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) of Japan as subordinate shareholders. This embryonic supercarrier alli-

ance was set up initially to offer end-to-end network management, complete system outsourcing and a round-the-clock multilingual customer service facility available from a number of centres around the world. Future service possibilities included international cashless calling, worldwide numbering and mobile cellular services.

However, efforts to enlarge Syncordia's ownership have so far failed. Telekom's entry was linked to France Télécom's taking a piece of the action, but terms could not be reached. Negotiations with NTT have apparently now ceased, although the Japanese carrier may act as a distributor of Syncordia services in Japan.

First to form a rival grouping

were the Dutch and Swedish national carriers. One of the two Unisource operating companies which the duo established has now taken on the Swiss carrier as an equal shareholder, and a search is on for additional backing in the Far East. Unisource has also made a deal with US Sprint, the North American carrier, to interconnect its switching hubs in 1994.

The documents indicate that BT aims to offer voice, data and video services and include worldwide numbering and customised billing options. Prices would be between 5 and 15 per cent lower than conventional international dial-up rates.

In line with the Cyclone plan, talk at Syncordia is now about getting more business rather than acquiring more partners.

However, some doubt has been expressed about the viability of BT's taking the supercarrier route alone, given the very high levels of investment required and the probable hostility from operators in whose territory Cyclone's switching hubs are located. Peter Wilkinson, a director of the Quotient Communications consultancy, based in Britain, points out that Cable & Wireless' Global Digital Highway transmission system is being built up on an incremental basis and that the company is looking for partnerships to achieve its aims.

Mr Wilkinson points out that any would-be supercarrier will have to have very good local resources in place to service its customers in competition with incumbent operators. "The major issue is not the network," he says, "it's the customer at the end of the network."

JOHN WILLIAMSON

The integrated services digital network promises easy access to multimedia applications

Spreading the net

image and information.

Time has also allowed the carriers to accumulate the investment necessary to make ISDN widely available. Germany and France between them have over 100,000 basic-rate connections and 10,000 primary-rate connections in use. In Britain, BT has some 5,000 basic-rate and 3,000 primary-rate ISDN connections in service. In Belgium, commercial ISDN was launched in 1989 and is today available nationwide.

In Switzerland, a primary-rate service has just been launched, and a full basic-rate service is due to start in October. And in Italy, a pilot ISDN that was started last year is now accessible from Bari, Genoa, Milan, Naples, Palermo, Pisa, Rome, Turin, Trento and Venice.

Over the past year, the number of basic-rate ISDN connections in use around the world has gone up threefold, to over 700,000. For both British operators, BT and

primary-rate ISDN, the rise has been fourfold to over 30,000. As well as the stimulus given to ISDN by the availability of multimedia computer applications, thanks to digitisation of their networks, many telecommunications carriers now find it cheaper to connect to their larger customers

such as caller ID can be exploited to automate handling procedures which can waste valuable telephone minutes and annoy customers asked to hang on. It could even empower all organisation members to handle customer inquiries, boosting organisational efficiency.

The inherent quality of digital lines, combined with developments in data compression, also mean that ISDN can have broadcast applications. Already Capital Radio in London has used it to relay sports commentaries and in France a major chain of record shops, FNAC, uses ISDN to update material which can be heard by customers at listening posts in its outlets.

One of the most exciting application areas, however, promises to be in allowing computer applications and the information carried by ISDN's signalling facilities to interact. These computer-controlled applications, for instance, could herald a whole new level of service functionality on office telephone systems.

Nowhere is this likely to have more of an impact than in handling customers. ISDN facilities

Mercury, plan to upgrade their services to conform to the new Euro-ISDN standard by the end of this year. By the second half of 1993, all Belgian ISDN exchanges will support it, and in Italy a full commercial Euro-ISDN service will begin during 1993. Applications for ISDN range from a low-cost backup for a dedicated private data line linking computers at different locations to a means of linking videophones.

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In Germany, medical researchers are using the digital network to hold conferences with colleagues, exchanging text, image and data to supplement their conversations. The possibilities are enormous. So much so that John Sculley, chairman of Apple Computer, in a recent television interview on the American Cable News Network, predicted that telecommunications will dominate the next stage of the development of computing.

ISDN has come of age in an era of multimedia technology

via ISDN than through conventional analogue links.

Another stimulus to ISDN is coming from the increasing international compatibility of services. This will come to a head next year when Euro-ISDN, a single ISDN standard for the whole of Europe, is introduced.

Both British operators, BT and

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In search of the missing link

At present, mobile data communications are too complex and confusing

A cross Europe, the use of computers on the move is becoming commonplace, thanks to the development of laptop and even pocket computers. But there is still something missing before mobile computing can become really useful.

The documents indicate that BT aims to offer voice, data and video services and include worldwide numbering and customised billing options. Prices would be between 5 and 15 per cent lower than conventional international dial-up rates.

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However, some doubt has been expressed about the viability of BT's taking the supercarrier route alone, given the very high levels of investment required and the probable hostility from operators in whose territory Cyclone's switching hubs are located. Peter Wilkinson, a director of the Quotient Communications consultancy, based in Britain, points out that Cable & Wireless' Global Digital Highway transmission system is being built up on an incremental basis and that the company is looking for partnerships to achieve its aims.

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JOHN WILLIAMSON

increased take-up of the technology across Europe in the next five years. There are also signs that once users have mastered mobile data, they like what they see.

In Sundsvall, Sweden, SCA, the forestry group, uses mobile data to feed loggers with the information to cut trees to order. In Gothenburg, the public transport authority uses it to coordinate bus movements. In future it may even come to control the traffic lights.

In Manchester, the fire service uses mobile data to access information about chemical fires. They estimate it can take two to three minutes to obtain this data by voice link. With mobile data it takes just 30-45 seconds.

In Finland, the analogue cellular radio system is used to provide data links between people's offices and their holiday homes, often in remote parts of the country where the cost of installing a fixed link would be prohibitive.

British Airways uses mobile data to accelerate baggage-handling at both Heathrow airport, near London, and John F. Kennedy in New York. This is probably the first transatlantic mobile data application.

There are even standards emerging, promising an end to both the technology confusion and the geographical restrictions. To push Mobitec as a global standard, Swedish Telecom has teamed up with Norwegian Telecom, Finnish Telecom, France Telecom, Hutchison Telecom and Hong Kong's Cable and Wireless.

To make matters worse, the situation varies from country to country, making it impossible to create a pan-European network. Sweden was the first country in Europe to have its own dedicated national mobile data network when Swedish Telecom, the national carrier, launched its Mobitec service in 1984. But even today, there are only 8,000 users.

In Germany, the country everyone expects to yield the largest market for mobile data, Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, the national carrier, has only just begun testing mobile data. France is only just in the process of licensing two mobile data network operators, one of which is expected to be France Telecom, the national carrier.

In Britain, four companies were licensed to offer mobile data services in 1988, but only three have launched a service, and one of these has since been closed down. It looks less and less likely that the company which has not yet launched its service will do so.

Nevertheless, things may be looking up for mobile data. Market analysis such as Frost & Sullivan of New York and CII, based in London, both predict a much

Telecom of Canada and Bell South and Ram Broadcast of the United States to form the Mobitec Operators Association.

Motorola, the American company, has responded by forming its own group to push its RD-LAP specification. Members of the Worldwide Wireless Data Network Operators Group include Ardis of the United States, Deutsche Bundespost Telekom and Hutchison Mobile Data.

The new pan-European mobile telephone system, Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM), also promises to yield a mobile data standard. Because of its shorter call set-up times, high data transmission rates and digital format, it is much better suited to mobile data applications than today's analogue cellular radio systems.

The European Telecommunications Standards Institute is looking at implementing a data version of its trunked mobile radio standard, Tetra.

Even Comet, has not given up looking for a mobile data solution. It is just waiting for somebody to come to it with a clear and simple proposition which does not cost the earth. Is that too much to ask?

MARLA MADISON

Desperate for privatisation

The cost of reunification has driven Deutsche Telekom to the brink

An answer is expected very soon on whether the Bundestag, Germany's parliament, will amend the country's constitution to release Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, the national telecommunications carrier, from its status as a public authority. Peter Purton writes. If the answer is yes, and most observers believe it will be, the decision could come in the nick of time for Telekom's management.

A positive Bundestag decision would mark the final stage of a transformation that only ten years ago most insiders in Germany's telecommunications were saying could never happen. The journey started in the mid-1980s,

when international criticism of Germany's closed telecommunications market led to a review of the monopolies of the Deutsche Bundespost, then the national postal authority.

The review, led by Professor Eberhard Witte, a respected economist, was completed in 1987, and by 1988 Dr Christian Schwarz-Schilling, the minister responsible, had translated it into legislation. The new Telecommunications Law deprived the Bundespost of almost all its telecommunications monopolies, except in the basic carrying of voice traffic in the fixed network.

As significant as the loss of its monopoly was the decision to split the Deutsche Bundespost into three separate entities, one responsible for its courier duties, another for its savings bank, and a third for telecommunications. By the end of 1990, Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, as the telecommunications entity was named, had recruited a



Law: Christian Schwarz-Schilling

team of 10,000 staff, and was cripplingly in debt.

However, this burden is

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Pension funds give jittery market a miss

Institutional investment in property fell sharply during the second quarter of the year, latest figures from the Central Statistical Office show, demonstrating a continuing lack of confidence in the general economic situation.

Among the pension funds, insurance companies, investment trusts and unit trusts, the greatest reduction in investment came from pension funds, whose purchases fell by 56 per cent, while insurance company purchasers were down by 10 per cent. Annual net investment in property for the year to June 1992 was £1,751 million compared with £2,033 million for the year to March 1992, while the quarterly total to June was £207 million compared with £391 million in the quarter to March.

The figures also show that the average turnover for insurance companies and pension funds over the past four quarters is the lowest in seven years. Nevertheless, Hillier Parker reports optimistically, net institutional investment,

while continuing the downward trend over the past year, is still greater than the trough of the last quarter of 1990. Robert Farnes, investment partner at Hillier Parker, said that the economic and financial changes of the past three weeks had yet to be reflected in the strategic thinking of the institutions, although transactions agreed before "Black Wednesday" had continued to exchange of contracts and completion.

"Whether the 1 per cent reduction in the minimum lending rate will provide much of a boost to consumer confidence is not yet clear, but there is some evidence that retail trade is improving, and this may be enough to stimulate investment interest in the sector. The increased stability produced by the new exchange rates may crystallise some overseas interest which had previously hesitated to make a commitment," he said.

Fred Reeder, investment partner of Jones Lang Wootton, said that although the figures indicated a

Lower interest rates should attract institutions into the retail market,
Christopher Warman reports

decline in investment, the volume by value of properties traded over the same period had fallen by only 6 per cent. "When allowance is taken of the continuing downward trend in capital values, the figures suggest that there has been little change in the actual volume of properties changing hands."

He argued that despite, or perhaps because of, political and economic uncertainty in the UK and Europe, institutions would continue to invest in property as funds sought to balance their asset

Property will increasingly be seen as a balance against rising inflation

allocation weightings. "In addition, property will increasingly be seen as a balance against the possibility of rising inflation accompanying an economic recovery stimulated by anticipated falling interest rates made possible by exit from the ERM," he said.

If interest rates continued to fall, property, with average yields stabilising, would appear increasingly attractive to investors. "This will stimulate the release of more product into the market, particularly as investors will begin to anticipate the beginnings of an upturn in tenant demand in the event of signs of economic recovery," Mr Reeder said.

The lack of investment activity during the second quarter has continued into the third quarter in

the atmosphere of economic uncertainty, Adriana White and Ian Scott of Fletcher King, report. "Additionally, there is still a shortage of supply of investment stock, or more accurately, supply from willing sellers at prices purchasers are prepared to pay. It is clear that some properties that do appear are being tested against a selling target, many subsequently being withdrawn when that target is not reached," they say.

Institutions which are investing have retail warehouses, prime town-centre shops and good distribution warehouses at the head of the list, a trend confirmed in a survey of institutional demand by Bernard Thorpe. The survey of the leading 75 institutional property investors shows that demand for distribution warehousing investments has overtaken all other property sectors, and has inspired the funding of speculative or partly let development schemes in areas of proven tenant demand.

In the retail market, many funds are waiting for more evidence of consumer confidence in the high street, but retail warehousing is still strong. The best shopping centres are in demand, and funds are openly competing with property companies and overseas investors.

The Bernard Thorpe survey shows that the office market is expected to return to popularity, particularly in the provinces. Elsewhere, investors are very selective, especially in the South and in central London.

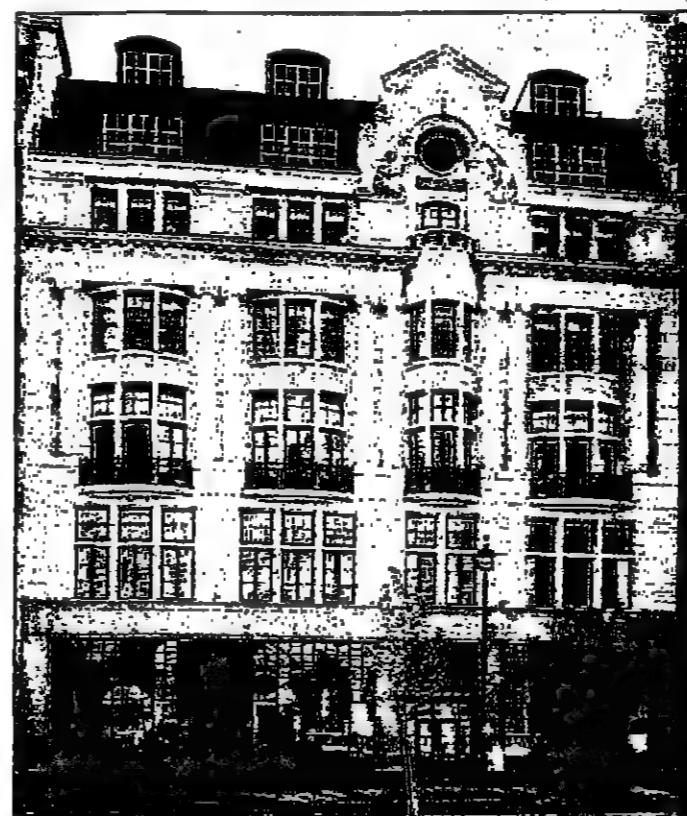
Tony Gray, investment partner at Bernard Thorpe, said that against the present economic backdrop and the more recent exceptional fluctuations in the financial markets, the majority of fund managers were unlikely to modify their strict investment criteria. "Further competition for industrial/warehousing investments seems inevitable and shopping-centre owners can expect to see greater interest, but the popularity of retail warehousing and high-street retail may be reduced by the prolonged recession," he said.



New for old: the design of the entrance hall, above, at 14 Cockspur Street is based on the original, with replica plaster moulding, and the building's facade, below, has been preserved

Edwardian elegance

ST JAMES'S Gate, at 14 Cockspur Street, in central London, has 28,000 sq ft of the highest quality headquarter office space newly built behind its Edwardian facade. Beyond the entrance hall, where fragments of the original plaster mouldings have been copied, is a glass atrium which gives internal light to the six floors. St James's Gate is a development by L'Etoile Properties, a company formed from a consortium of French firms, and the agent Conway Relf is asking a rent of about £40 a sq ft. Next door is St James's Hall, also owned by the consortium, and offering 3,700 sq ft of office space, including a spectacular banking hall which was once the booking hall for the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Significant interest has already been shown in the properties. St James's Gate and the Hall could be combined if required.



London leads the business world

London remains the leading business location in Europe, according to a survey of 530 senior executives in nine European countries carried out by The Harris Research Centre, London, for consultants Healey & Baker.

First in last year's survey, London strengthened in top place as a business centre, boasting the best access to markets, telecommunications, climate for business created by government and availability of office space.

The first five in the order are unchanged from last year: London, Paris, Frankfurt, Brussels and Amsterdam, although Glasgow leapt up the table from 17th to sixth.

Paris got the highest score for ease of movement within the city. While Frankfurt is considered to have the best transport links overall and is also regarded as a serious challenger to London as the leading financial centre. Brussels is seen, more than ever, as the most important future political centre.

This was the third year of the European Real Estate Monitor, and James Hollington, partner at Healey & Baker, said there had been a gradual improving knowledge of Europe's business centres. "It suggests that business people are increasingly thinking as Europeans," he said.

The Monitor places Brussels in the lead for languages spoken, Glasgow for value for money of office space, Lisbon for cost and availability of staff, Stockholm for freedom from pollution; and Munich for quality of life. As well as having immediately available space, London, Manchester and Glasgow all benefit from stability of government and good labour.

Strong support for European Community expansion is expressed. The majority of respondents said that business would benefit from the inclusion of all western European countries, and more than half felt that the ex-communist bloc countries of eastern Europe should eventually be encouraged to join the EC.

Only the Belgians disagreed with the expectation that the newly unified Germany would inevitably become the centre of Europe.

C.W.

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RESULTS

RECESSION HURTING?

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Developers answer the demand for office space in eastern Germany

Leipzig under reconstruction

industrial base has an equal priority.

"Even if our policy is not so attractive for the property sector as a whole, we are simply not interested in transforming industrial areas into pure office centres," he says. Two

years after reunification, potential investors and developers are still plagued by problems of land ownership.

Despite changes in the law last year, which allowed compensation to be given rather than full restitution for special cases, Mr Holoch believes that the bureaucracy is still preventing

out-of-town rents are expected to be around DM 25-30 a sq m a month, but no discernible letting market has yet developed to test the figure.

Rents in the city have fallen in the last six months from DM 70 a sq m a month to DM 60.

They are expected to stabilise at around DM 55 as renovated and modernised old buildings come on to the market over the next five years.

According to JLW, the high level of rents has led tenants to prefer tenancy agreements running for periods of up to three years.

being improved, is at present inadequate.

There are over 10 million sq m of business parks either at the planning stage or under development for the Greater Leipzig area. An example is the 420-hectare Leipzig Sud-West scheme proposed by EML, a real-estate company formed by seven Munich families. The company has been forced to forward-fund DM 1.2 billion of infrastructure improvements. EML is also planning an office and administration complex totalling about 38,000 sq m in the city centre.

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Developers are being pushed out to fringe locations where land ownership issues do not arise, but where existing infrastructure, although

years after reunification, potential investors and developers are still plagued by problems of land ownership.

German authorities have agreed to the restitution of property to owners of land expropriated by the Nazis and the Russian state, but no sale can be made or building permission given until any claim on the land in question

is settled by the courts.

Although 130 restitution claims have been dealt with and 300 are to be decided shortly, there remain 23,000 outstanding claims in Leipzig.

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much-needed investment from coming into the city.

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Piggott to star again with Never So Sure

LESTER Piggott delighted his army of followers at Longchamp on Sunday by winning the Prix de l'Abbaye a fourth time when only a month short of his 57th birthday.

Today, it should be the turn of York racegoers to witness another vintage display by the maestro, this time astride Never So Sure in the Newtonton Hotel York Racegoers Handicap over five furlongs.

Even the minimum trip will take some getting on a rain-soaked Knavesmire, so it is just as well that Never So Sure has won over longer trips this season.

Importantly, too, it was soft underfoot when he scored at Chester in July.

Since then Alan Bailey-trained four-year-old has also won the valuable Lawrence Bailey Handicap over six furlongs on today's track.

He was ridden by Piggott

on that occasion when he also had the race sewn up a long way from home.

Never So Sure's subsequent races have been the Portland Handicap at Doncaster and the Ayr Gold Cup. At Doncaster, he was never in with a chance with a 10lb penalty, while at Ayr he was not

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

disgraced, although unplaced when ridden by an apprentice.

His most obvious danger today is Tautum Blu, the mount of Michael Roberts. Third to Beagle and Street Rebel in a listed race at the Curragh ten days ago, Tautum Blu had earlier finished a fraction in front of Never So Sure at Ayr.

Roberts and Paul Eddery can expect good rides on Limpac West and Vallance respectively in the Goodramgate Handicap, Roberts particularly so since Limpac West, the recent winner of the Doonside Cup at Ayr, adores soft ground. However, I marginally prefer Cold Shower.

Taught near Worksop by Jeremy Glover, whose handling of last Saturday's Cambridge winner Rambo's Hall has been so admirable, Cold Shower has also excelled, winning his last three races.

Crucially, as far as today's race is concerned, he goes unpenalised for winning the final of the Shadwell Stud

Apprentice Series in such an authoritative manner at Newmarket last Wednesday.

In the circumstances, Cold Shower will be a tough nut to crack with his featherweight in today's conditions.

Lyford Carr, who just got touched off by Colway Rock at Ayr last time having also finished second on his debut at Chepstow, looks the probable winner of the Monkgate Maiden - Median Auction Stakes.

The Walmsley Nursery can go to the Mick Channon-trained George Roper who revels in soft ground, judged on his latest run at Redcar.

At Haydock, Willie Carson should win the first two races on Artistic Reef (2.10) and Aztec Coffee (2.40).

Dragon's Teeth, my nap to

win the second division of the Whitebeam Maiden Stakes,

is a half-brother to Bonny Scot, who won the same race for Lord Weinstock, Luca Cumani, and Lanfranco Dettori last year.

When chasing the hot favourite Almanzor all the way to the line on his debut at Yarmouth three weeks ago,

Dragon's Teeth showed that he possesses the requisite

stamina to see off Blue Blazer.

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ANDREW VARLEY

Italy make two changes for clash at Cardiff

Wales await late fitness decision on vice-captain

By GERALD DAVIES

STUART Davies, the Wales No. 8 and vice-captain, will have a fitness test this morning to determine whether he will play against Italy on their first visit to Cardiff Arms Park this evening. The Swansea player injured his upper leg during training with the Welsh squad on Monday night.

"It is a soft-tissue injury and not a tear," Alan Davies, the Welsh coach, said yesterday. "So we'll have to see over the next 24 hours how it responds. The base of international players currently available in Wales is narrow and we would not wish to put any of our key players at risk. Stuart made such a big contribution to our efforts last season."

Ian Davies, the Swansea back row forward who alternates between No. 8 and flanker for his club, has been asked to stand by.

Ian, who arrived in Cardiff

last night, come flush from their handsome 22-3 victory against Romania in L'Aquila last Thursday. They have made one change among the forwards and one in the back division. Edgardo Venturi comes in on the right wing, while Vaccari, who occupied that position last week, moves to full back. The inclusion of Giovanni Gregson at tight-head prop to replace Propreri-Curti breaks up the front row partnership which played in their three World Cup matches.

By bringing in Colin Stephens to play at stand-off instead of Neil Jenkins, Wales make only one change from the team that ended last season's championship with a victory against Scotland. Having achieved another win by a single point against Ireland in Dublin, they entered the summer recess in relative lightness of spirit. These two successes

relieved them of the paranoia which had afflicted them in previous years when they had achieved only one victory and a draw in the championship since 1989.

Bob Norster, the Wales manager, and Alan Davies, the coach, believe that to regain the high ground of international rugby Wales need to progress gently. The cornerstone is confidence among the players.

During Davies' tenure which began last autumn with a celebration match against France before the World Cup, 30 players have played for Wales in eight matches. More pertinently, since he began at the deep end and inherited someone else's squad, only 18 appeared in the four matches of the five nations championship.

Since the decision was taken not to award caps, the Welsh players should not consider the game of lesser value than a proper international match. Others have referred to it as a preparation. They need to beware that from such a definition, complacency arises. Perhaps Davies needs to remind his team that France scraped home 21-18 when they met last February.

"We've analysed Italy largely on the basis of their performances in the World Cup," says Davies. "From what little we've seen of the Romania game we've assessed that they won the game on a minimum of possession. Italy were effective using the ball; the opposition gave away. Ball retention is, therefore, a key area. This game will give us a test on how far we have reached and to what extent we have progressed from last season."

Gardner, 28, began his Italian career against Romania last week: "Basically, it boils down to the individual who is playing sport," he said.

"All he is really looking for is the opportunity to play at the highest level possible in the circumstances allowed him."

These days those circumstances are becoming increasingly diverse.

Gardner is happy to wear Italian colours

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

JULIAN Gardner's last international appearance was for Australia at Twickenham four years ago. Tonight, in Cardiff, he will play his second match for Italy, after becoming the latest player to make the crossover from one nationality to another.

Gardner, who was born in Brisbane of an Italian mother, has spent the last three northern hemisphere seasons in Italy, the first with Brescia, the last two with Novara, where he works as a rugby development officer.

He won four caps in Australia's back row before falling out, fairly publicly, with Bob Dwyer, the national coach.

It is not a chapter he refers to now, but says: "When I started coming to Italy I had more or less resigned myself to

Reid ready to make Irish debut

By DAVID HANDS

HINKY Reid, the London Irish coach and former New Zealand hooker, makes his first playing appearance for the club against Loughborough Colleges tomorrow.

Reid will be eligible for Courage Clubs Championship matches from early March after he qualifies under the 12 days rule.

Rupert Moon, who has already represented England, will captain Wales B against North of England at Pontypridd Park on October 14.

The Llanelli captain, who has played for England Colts, England B and England Students, is one of seven players from his club chosen for the game.

"It is a great honour to be picked to captain Wales," he said. There are five full caps — Mike Rayer, Nigel Davies, Neil Jenkins, John Davies and Phil Davies — in the Wales line-up.

WALES B: M Rayer (Cardiff), S Davies (Llanelli), W Prothero (Llanelli), N Jenkins (Pontypridd), R Moon (Llanelli), captain; R Evans (Llanelli), M Meek (Pontypridd), J Williams (Llanelli), P Davies (Llanelli), N Jones (Cardiff), I Davies (Swansea), A Williams (Maeesteg), L Jones (Llanelli), replacement; R McEvoy (Pontypridd), A Davies (Cardiff), I Dwyer (Llanelli), I Dwyer (Swansea), A Reynolds (Swansea), P Kewell (Cardiff)

Selectors guarded over England pack

By DAVID HANDS

THE England selectors, in announcing a squad of 24 yesterday to prepare for the international against Canada at Wembley on October 17, have left two intriguing queries over the composition of the front and back rows of their scrum.

The XV will be named when the squad meets for training on Sunday; a squad which omits five of the players from the march squad before England's last international, against Wales in March: Tony Underwood, Simon Halliday, Mickey Skinner, David Pears and Martin Hynes.

Without Hynes, who has been dropped, the way seems open for Victor Ubogu, the Bath prop, to win a first cap alongside a colleague from the England B tour of New Zealand, Tony Underwood.

The back division looks a straightforward choice, given that Ian Hunter has yet to play this season (even though Northampton are expected to name him in their team to play Bath this weekend). His match fitness is even more limited than that of Jason Leonard, whose place Ubogu seems likely to fill.

South Africans find going tough

From CHRIS THAU in PAU, FRANCE

NOT too many coaches who had begun their term of office with three consecutive defeats would be looking to experiment. Yet great as the temptation must have been, John Williams and the South African management will not field their strongest side against Aquitaine tonight in search of a badly-needed victory.

Though the South Africans could do with a win to raise morale in the second game of their tour of France, the need to discover the strength of their squad is more pressing.

"We changed 13 players from the weekend team in order to give everyone with a chance to play in the international an opportunity to state their claims," Williams said. "After today's game we will then sit back and take a hard look at who is really in contention."



Aquitaine formidable foe

Seasoned French observers believe that the Aquitaine scrum, including some of the reformed "sinners" of French rugby in Greigore Lascubé (sent off against England), Olivier Roumat (sent off in

New Zealand) and Abdelfatif Benazzi, is as good as the French international pack.

So while Aquitaine have been concentrating on using the loose ball in training, the South Africans have had to concentrate on lineouts, scrummaging and driving.

Williams is well aware of the need to develop a more sophisticated approach, but time is not on his side with the first international ten days away.

"I'm really keen to get into the real stuff. But how can you move into the finer points of the game in the loose when the set-piece department is still struggling?" he said.

AQUITANE: J B Lafond (captain), P Bertrand, J P Lapeyre, P Lapeyre, L Verga, E Michaud, A Aubut, O Roumat, A Benazzi, P Beneton, A Van Herrewyn, S Thysse, T Vervaeke, G De Roux, G Wright, W Hills, H Roberts, J Sykes, A Richter, A Malan, H Helling, W Barfman, Y Stevano (recovery).



On the sideline: Allan Langer, scrum half with the Brisbane Broncos, the Winfield Cup champions, relaxes at Leeds yesterday

Australians fire first Wembley warning

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AUSTRALIA are past masters of the art of kidology. The opening gambit of their World Cup final campaign yesterday was to lavish praise on Great Britain and advise on team selection, both early warnings of the confidence within the squad.

Bobby Fulton, the coach of the 22 touring Australians, said that the improvements by Great Britain made them favourites for a one-off game at Wembley, a place Australia were not especially fond of, and that they would be as well selecting Ellery Hanley.

"Winning at Wembley would

a player they do not particularly care for.

"We're not intimidated by Wembley by any stretch of the imagination but we've not got a good overall record there. We've won just one of three games there but we know how we were beaten last time in 1990 and the pitch is the same for both teams."

Fulton said.

Mal Meninga, the Australia captain, who has recovered from a hamstring injury, missed the last World Cup final, when Australia defeated New Zealand in 1988, because of a broken arm.

"Winning at Wembley would

fulfil a personal ambition," Meninga said.

"It is going to be a daunting task in front of 78,000 screaming British fans. Britain are an immensely powerful side, but our strength in depth is pretty considerable."

By contrast, the Australians, with the exception of the eight members of the Winfield Cup-winning Brisbane Broncos side, who are being rested, should have an easy stretch of the legs against Huddersfield on Friday. Then follows a more strenuous workout against Sheffield Eagles, of the first division, on October 14 and a wind-down against Cumbria four days later.

According to Fulton, all but

three or four places for the final on October 24 are settled. This means Great Britain are likely to face the same heavyweight pack that steam-rollered them to win the summer's decisive international in Brisbane.

At full back, Fulton will introduce one of two newcomers, either Brad Godden, a specialist in the position, or Tim Brasher, who has played only half a game this season in the No. 1 shirt and may be preferred in the centre. The one other contentious position is No. 6, which will be contested by Brad Fitter and Kevin Walters.

League's leader leaves significant legacy

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

DAVID Oxley slipped unnoticed into the hot seat at the Rugby Football League in Leeds the same summer's day in 1974 that Brian Clough marched briefly to Elland Road. The present hubbub over the appointment of a successor as chief executive, 18 years on, is a measure of the credence and esteem Oxley has given a once moribund game.

The likely accession by Maurice Lindsay today, 12 years after joining the board at Wigan, will bring a more abrasive business edge to a revolution brought so far by Oxley's diplomatic stealth and quiet persuasion. It is time for the hard sell towards the game's centenary in 1995, but without Oxley, 54, who retires at the end of the

month, there would be little sell or celebrate.

Few doubt that Lindsay, an on-cue "bookmaker" and shrewdest of gamblers, is the right choice. His main task will be the breaking of rugby league's still wretchedly parochial bonds. Compared with the problems initially faced by the Oxford-educated Oxley, it might seem relatively straightforward.

Oxley was a surprise selection to regenerate the sport. Apart from a native passion for Hull KR, deputy headmaster of the Duke of York's Military School, Dover, was not an obvious credit. What Oxley possessed was intelligence and a boundless enthusiasm. He knew the importance of image and sold rugby league as "the greatest game", not only to those on the inside to raise morale, but

to sponsors, media and anyone else who cared to listen.

Along with David Howes, a young sports writer from Hull, whom he appointed public relations officer, "the two Davids" spent three years

spreading the gospel before embarking upon reconstruction. Sponsors, and their money, were embraced and an unwieldy process of decision-making was devolved to a six-man board of directors. Other sports watched, and learned from Oxley's skilled introduction of a player contract system. On the rare occasion the mask of artful diplomacy slipped, it was rare passion for the game spilling over. Oxley once held an under-24 international in France, placing a foot on the ball and lecturing the referee in his best schoolboy French on how precisely to apply the sin-bin rule.

His role as ambassador has spread the game into nooks and crannies across the world, but not to where it matters most. He said: "The game has still to grow up to

the fact that unless we secure a proper foothold in London, we won't ever throw off the backward image."

Broadening of horizons, starting with the World Cup final on October 24, and a single governing organisation, are issues Oxley considers vital: "Public perception of the game and those who play it has improved beyond all recognition, but we will remain off the pace of other sports until these matters are resolved," he said.

Oxley, who also serves on the Sports Council, has firm ideas on the direction of sport in general. "Contrary to received opinion, we Brits are not as sports mad as we think. We need to galvanise administrators into action, increase participation and allow ourselves to see just how sport can benefit national life."

YACHTING

Interspray benefits by following direct route

By BARRY PICKTHALL

INTERSPRAY, the British Steel Challenge yacht skippered by Paul Jeffies, re-established her lead in the round-the-world race yesterday as half the fleet played nipp-and-tuck through the Canary Islands en route to Rio de Janeiro, the first stopover port.

Jeffies and his crew gained their advantage by diving between Tenerife and Gran Canaria, while Coopers & Lybrand, the previous leader, was forced to bear off and avoid the island of Gomera.

The diversion cost Vivien Cherry's crew more than 30 miles and, by 3pm yesterday, they found themselves back in third place, four miles further from Rio than British Steel II, who have enjoyed a five-day run under spinner.

A further 150 miles west,

SUSAN Devoy's defence of the women's world open championship began on a sour and angry note here as her husband, John Oakley, was included in a large group of personal coaches and trainers forced to pay for the right to watch their players in the first round.

The organisers have taken the unusual decision to allow only fully accredited national coaches and attendants into the playing area of the Arbutus Club. Some 150 individuals, with varying claims of personal connection to the fleet, have made their way into the Arbutus.

Another in need of a break is Rhone-Poulenc. Her crew, led by John O'Driscoll, have been shredding and mending spinnakers all week and have now dropped the back of the fleet with Commercial Union.

The diversion cost Vivien Cherry's crew more than 30 miles and, by 3pm yesterday, they found themselves back in third place, four miles further from Rio than British Steel II, who have enjoyed a five-day run under spinner.

A further 150 miles west,

ers arrived in Vancouver to discover it was planned to charge them \$100 (£50) for access.

Sue Wright, the British champion, eventually argued the price down to \$30 for her father but one player who lost her official pass was charged \$20 for a replacement. Dean Williams, the former world No. 2, who coaches Robyn Lambourne, of Australia, took so long to obtain a \$30 pass that he crushed her first round encounter with Amanda Humble of Canada. His fury was tinged with obvious regret

that his standing in the sport, of which he was a leading light for some years, counted for so little in this outport of the game.

"They have made this into a second-rate tournament with low prize-money, no hotel bonus and their pinching ways," Devoy said, as her husband handed over his fee.

"This is just an insult ... Can you imagine Steffi Graf buying a ticket for Wimbledon or Jansher Khan paying at the British Open?"

Results, page 34

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

FA VASE: Preliminary round

Billingham Town v Ryhope CC; Louh v Haworth CI

Stretford v Sharrowdale Colliery

Haworth v Accrington Stanley

St. Johnstone v Rangers

Alloa v Dunfermline

Ormskirk v Wrexham

Brentford v Colchester United

Leeds United v Shrewsbury Town

Sheffield Wednesday v Bradford City

Portsmouth v Hartlepool United

Walsall v Chesterfield

Wigan v Hartlepool United

Wolver

THE TIMES SPORT

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7 1992

Uefa makes unpopular decision

Barcelona chosen as venue for third Leeds match

By STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

LEEDS United's European Cup tie against VfB Stuttgart will be decided at the Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona on Friday night. After five days of procrastination, Uefa, the governing body of European football, finally determined yesterday the suitable time and place for the third leg of the tie.

The solution, which emerged after appeals and counter-appeals from both clubs, will be seen by Uefa as an appropriate compromise. In effect, though, it has caused maximum inconvenience not only to Leeds and four countries preparing for next week's World Cup qualifying ties but also to Scunthorpe United, who were due to play Leeds tonight in a Coca-Cola Cup tie.

However, as Leslie Silver, the Leeds chairman, said, at least the matter is about to be concluded. "The last few days had become a farce," he said. "So we are pleased that the situation has been resolved. We can get on with playing

football and stop playing politics."

Once Leeds had heard of the decision, they chose not to appeal against it. Instead, they trusted they would be offered the assistance of the national managers of England, Scotland, Wales and France, each of whom could have demanded the release of their international players.

The co-operation was forthcoming. Graham Taylor agreed to release David Batty and Tony Dorigo, who will join the rest of the England squad at the weekend rather than on Thursday in Lillehamer for fitness assessments.

"I want to support Leeds," Taylor said. Clearly, though, he will be displeased that his first free weekend of the season has been so disrupted. So will Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland coach, who has allowed Gary McAllister to represent Leeds, and Terry Yorath, of Wales, who has freed Gary Speed. Gerard Houllier, the France manager, has also permitted Eric Cantona to

represent his club. Yet he, like the other national managers, had a right to insist that his chosen squad member should be available to him.

Leeds have also been spared with the permission of the Football Association the ordeal of completing their Coca-Cola Cup tie against Scunthorpe. It was to have been held at Elland Road tonight but it has been postponed.

"It is in the best interests of British football that this matter is settled as quickly as possible," Silver said. "We are concerned about upholding the goodwill and reputation of this club, English football and the relationship between ourselves and Uefa. We'll play the game and hope to win through to the second round against Rangers."

Stuttgart beat Leeds 3-0 in the first leg, Leeds won the second leg last Wednesday 4-1 but Stuttgart qualified for the second round on the away-goals rule. However, Uefa ruled that Stuttgart had fielded an ineligible player in the second leg and eventually demanded a replay. Uefa was determined that the third game would not interfere with the next round, the first leg of which is scheduled to be played on October 21. Friday's match will be conclusive. If necessary, extra time and penalties will be used.

Yet it may be staged in front of a minimal audience. The stadium, the centrepiece of the Olympic Games football tournament during the summer, has a capacity of 120,000 but Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, commented: "It will be near as damnit empty. The atmosphere will be the same for both sides and so, in that way, the competition will be as fair as can be on the night."

Nevertheless, Wilkinson indicated his side would be especially eager to earn the right to go through to play Rangers in the last 16. "There has been lots of giving and taking to arrange this tie," Wilkinson said, "and we seem to have been doing most of the giving. We won't be short of reasons for wanting to go out and win on Friday."

Doyles' decision to sever his world series connections with Hearn, a fellow board member of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, follows financial and procedural disagreements in addition to the failure of Gary

Wilkinson to secure a place in the Belgian Masters field.

"Although I was a partner in world series, I might as well have been on the moon in terms of consultation," Doyle said yesterday. "Players are still awaiting money from the Kent Classic in China five weeks ago. The whole matter is in the hands of my solicitors."

Doyle is also annoyed that Wilkinson, a partner in the world No. 8 and one of his players has been passed over in favour of Peter Ebdon and Ronnie O'Sullivan, who, the Belgian promoters believe, possess more crowd appeal.

The event, won last year by Hallett, will now revert to an invitation tournament outside the world series. Tony Drago, of Malta, and Alison Fisher, the women's world champion, are likely to replace Hendry and Hallett.

Frank Vereske, one of the joint promoters, said: "I'm not happy not to have Stephen and Mike here but I won't give in to blackmail."

In response, Hearn said:

"Promoters in Belgium wanted to invite Ebdon and O'Sullivan not me. The only losers have been the players because the prize-money has been reduced to £50,000."

Results, page 31

Leeds to be live on TV

SUPPORTERS of Leeds United will be able to watch their team's European Cup rematch against Stuttgart on Friday on ITV. "The whole match will be networked live," a spokesman, Peter Coppock, said yesterday. "There is certainly to be tremendous interest."

ITV will have to pay around £200,000 for the rights to screen the game from Barcelone's Nou Camp stadium.

The decision was warmly

Hitchcock rewarded

KEVIN Hitchcock, the goalkeeper who ousted Dave Beasant at Chelsea, was yesterday given a new four-year contract.

Hitchcock was on a week-to-week contract at Stamford Bridge before Chelsea's manager, Ian Porterfield, called him up to replace Beasant. Beasant had made a succession of blunders, two of them

leading to goals for Norwich City on September 12.

Since then, Hitchcock, the former Mansfield Town goalkeeper, has kept three clean sheets, and although Chelsea lost 2-1 at Arsenal on Saturday, he saved a penalty.

Chelsea are still hoping to import the Russian goalkeeper, Dimitri Kharin, for a trial period.

Nonetheless, Hitchcock indicated his side would be especially eager to earn the right to go through to play Rangers in the last 16. "There has been lots of giving and taking to arrange this tie," Wilkinson said, "and we seem to have been doing most of the giving. We won't be short of reasons for wanting to go out and win on Friday."

Doyle's decision to sever his world series connections with Hearn, a fellow board member of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, follows financial and procedural disagreements in addition to the failure of Gary



Andrew return from France will result in an embarrassment of riches in midfield at Sudbury

Doyle severs link with Hearn

By PHILIP YATES

IAN Doyle has resigned from his partnership with Barry Hearn in snooker's world series and two of Doyle's players — Stephen Hendry, the world champion, and Mike Hallett — have been withdrawn from the Belgian Masters in Antwerp this month.

Doyle's decision to sever his world series connections with Hearn, a fellow board member of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, follows financial and procedural disagreements in addition to the failure of Gary

Wilkinson to secure a place in the Belgian Masters field.

"Although I was a partner in world series, I might as well have been on the moon in terms of consultation," Doyle said yesterday. "Players are still awaiting money from the Kent Classic in China five weeks ago. The whole matter is in the hands of my solicitors."

Doyle is also annoyed that Wilkinson, a partner in the world No. 8 and one of his players has been passed over in favour of Peter Ebdon and Ronnie O'Sullivan, who, the Belgian promoters believe, possess more crowd appeal.

"With regard to the money from China, it is not Barry Hearn that owes the money. It is World Series Snooker that is still owed money by the sponsor and, as soon as it comes in, it will be paid out immediately."

John Parrott, the defending champion, reached the semi-finals of the £224,000 Dubai Duty Free Classic yesterday with a 5-0 victory over Mick Price of Nuneaton. After trailing Willie Thorne 2-1, James Wattana recovered to win the next four frames for a 5-2

success.

Results, page 31

Bates returns to court after having tests on heart

By ANDREW LONGMORE

JEREMY Bates, who lost to Neil Borwick in the first round of the Australian Indoor tennis championships in Sydney, has undergone heart tests and might be forced to cut back his schedule over the winter.

The British No. 1, aged 30 and ranked 90 in the world, went to hospital in Brisbane last week after suffering from "pounding pains" in his chest.

Bates has been plagued by mystery ailments in recent years. Exhaustive tests carried

out two years ago failed to identify the cause of a virus which affected his stamina for much of the summer. In the disastrous Davis Cup tie in Delhi late last month, he had a bout of dysentery and suffered from such severe headaches that he had to consult a neurologist. Bates was advised by the British Davis Cup team doctor, John Matthews, to return home after the tie. But, despite having a pulled stomach muscle, he was forced to go to Brisbane to avoid being fined by the ATP Tour.

Bates lost 6-1, 6-4 to Borwick of Australia, a wildcard entry, in his first match for eight days and then revealed that he needed cardiac tests in a Brisbane hospital.

"I was awake all night and my heart was pounding. I didn't know what the heck was going on, so I went to the hospital at six in the morning... I was starting to get pretty scared," Bates said. "They did all kinds of tests on me and then I flew down to Melbourne to stay with a friend of mine who is a cardio-vascular

surgeon and I had some blood tests done."

"They've discovered a couple of things wrong with me. I get low blood pressure when I stand up and I have a spasm in the neck so I am having problems swallowing."

"I felt fine out there today, I was just happy to be on the court, but I'm a bit scared about actually pushing my respiratory system. I've done a lot this year and I think it's just my body telling me I have to pack it in a bit."

John McEnroe said yester-

day he would be willing to donate a percentage of his tennis prize-money to help the world's need. After coming from a set down to eliminate Andrei Olshovskiy, of Russia, in the second round in Sydney, McEnroe said: "I would give five or ten per cent of my prize-money to help out, where do you start? I'm going to look at starting a foundation that I can put in a couple of million [dollars] and that can only go to charity... it will be a small way of feeling like I'm giving something back."

John McEnroe said yester-

O'Reilly mourned by Bradman

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

SIR Donald Bradman yesterday led the tributes to Bill "Tiger" O'Reilly, one of the greatest spin bowlers the game has known, following his death in a Sydney hospital at the age of 91.

"I am very sorry indeed to hear of the passing of my old friend and colleague," Bradman said. "He was the greatest bowler that I ever faced or saw and in my opinion certainly the best bowler Australia ever produced."

In his autobiography, *Farwell to Cricket*, Bradman wrote: "How many times in my life have I been asked: Who is the greatest bowler you have ever played against? My answer has invariably been O'Reilly. Of all the first-class batsmen I know who played against him in his prime, not one disagrees with this view."

O'Reilly, who was 6ft 3in, was a big man in every sense of the word. He played Test cricket between 1931 and 1946 and bowled his leg

breaks and googlies at such a pace that it was almost impossible to get down the pitch to him.

In 27 Tests he took 144 wickets at an average of 22.55, including three hauls of ten wickets in a match. His 203 wickets for New South Wales in 33 Sheffield Shield matches cost 17.10 apiece.

Another former Australian captain, Richie Benaud, 62, recalled watching O'Reilly for

the first time at the age of nine.

He said O'Reilly's attitude to batsmen was simple: "He hated them and it was that which earned him his nickname."

Harold Larwood, 87, the England fast bowler who played against O'Reilly in the Bodyline series of 1932-3,

described him as "the best medium-pace spin bowler there ever was". He recalled how he fell victim to the last

wicket of the first over he faced from O'Reilly. "It came so fast I didn't even see it," Larwood said.

O'Reilly's duels with Walter

Hammond were a feature of Anglo-Australian Tests of the 1930s and he also matched wits with such great players as Sutcliffe, Hutton and Compton. Apart from the Bodyline series, he toured England in 1934 and 1938 and played in the Ashes series in Australia in 1936-7.

On his retirement from cricket, O'Reilly turned to journalism and won many new admirers with his trenchant comments in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. He was a passionate opponent of many aspects of the modern game and despised at the declining influence of spin bowlers.

He had no time for one-day cricket or matches under floodlights which he called "Pyjama cricket". O'Reilly was made an OBE in 1971 and in 1988 a grandstand at the Sydney Cricket Ground was named after him.

The TCCB, however, emphasised its determination to maintain its strong stand

TCCB finds that Stemp took drug 'unwittingly'

CRICKET'S first drugs case ended in a typical fog of obfuscation yesterday (Peter Ball writes). After a three-hour meeting at Edgbaston, the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) disciplinary committee found that Richard Stemp, the Worcestershire spin bowler, had taken amphetamine, but unwittingly. No action is being taken.

Stemp had been selected at random for a test on the Saturday of Worcestershire's game with Middlesex at Uxbridge in July. His sample was found to contain a quantity of amphetamine.

The committee heard evidence from Richard Stemp and from Worcestershire's secretary, Michael Vockins, had been instructed to say nothing, and the chairman of the disciplinary committee, Peter Bromage, of Warwickshire, also refused to comment.

The meeting also discussed the year's disciplinary proceedings, with the effectiveness of fines for ball-tampering being questioned.

The players' representative, David Graveney, reported some disquiet from his members that £1,000 levied on Surrey was meaningless.

The PCA is also asking the TCCB cricket committee to consider changes. Ball-tampering is at the forefront, with a suggestion that umpires should examine the ball regularly. The PCA also suggested the abolition of the one bouncer per over rule and asked how players can be registered as domestic players in two countries simultaneously.

Spliced out of screen history

Andrew back to play for Wasps

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ROB Andrew, England's most capped stand-off half with 48 appearances, will return this month to Wasps, the club he guided to the Courage Clubs Championship in 1990 and which stands at the head of the present first division table.

Andrew, 29, has spent the last year playing for Toulouse, having moved to France at the invitation of his employers, Debenham, Tewson and Chimocks, the international property advisers, who are also sponsors to Wasps.

However, the company decided he should return a year earlier than expected and Andrew will be available to play club rugby on October 31 (when Wasps play Cambridge, his university). He is likely though, to have made a representative appearance a fortnight earlier, having been named in the England squad to prepare for the international against Canada on October 17 just down the road from Wasps at Wembley.

"I never really left the fold," he said. "It was felt that now was a good time to come back into the UK property investment market, but it is unfortunate that my very enjoyable time with Stade Toulouse has been cut short just when things were going so well for the team."

However, Andrew returns to a buoyant Wasps, who have three wins out of three in the league and have been greatly assisted by the form of Adrian Thompson, the former Harlequins and Rosslyn Park stand-off. Indeed their midfield has been operating particularly effectively and Andrew's presence will mean an embarrassment of riches.

Wasps have yet to approach the Senior Clubs Association Registrar to reregister Andrew — who has played this season in the Yves du Manoir competition for Toulouse — and after they have done so the question of his eligibility to play competitive rugby in England will be discussed.

But there appears no reason why he should not resume his career at the earliest opportunity since he does not fall within the orbit of the restrictive eligibility regulation.

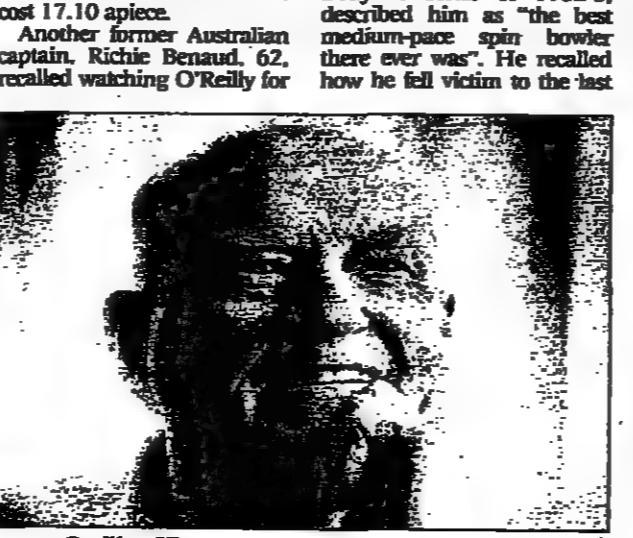
Philippe Sella, the French centre, will miss his country's match with South Africa on October 17 because of a serious thigh bruise, his doctor said yesterday.

Dr Jean Fabre said Sella was given general anaesthesia on Tuesday and an incision was made in his thigh to break up clots of blood in the bruise, which he sustained during a match.

Fabre said Sella would definitely miss the first international against South Africa in Lyon and probably would not be fit for the second, on October 24 in Paris.

Sella, who captained France in last season's five nations' championship, agreed with the French coach, Pierre Berbizier, to miss the summer tour to Argentina.

More rugby, page 30



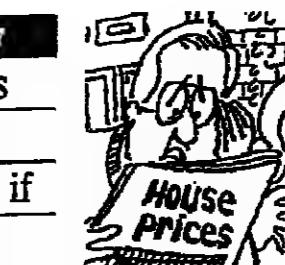


WOMEN p5
The mother
who has taken
Italy to the
streets



LIFE & TIMES

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7 1992



PROPERTY p7
Will prices
ever rise
again? And if
so, when?

Spliced out of screen history

A search is on for thousands of feet of missing British films

The National Film Archive, which has spent the best part of 60 years saving Britain's film heritage, has just published an attractive, if melancholy, pictorial album about the ones that got away. The declared object of the book, *Missing Believed Lost - The Great British Film Search*, is to alert anyone with a clue to the whereabouts of the lost legion of British films.

"The National Film Archive needs all the help and good fortune it can get in its endeavours to trace the untraceable," declares J. Paul Getty Jr in his preface to the book. Mr Getty himself has been the archive's major source of help and good fortune for the past decade or so. His unpublicised benefactions to the archive and the Museum of the Moving Image are conservatively reckoned at about £20 million.

The 100 films in *Missing Believed Lost* represent only the tip of the iceberg of lost films. Vanished British titles alone run into hundreds of thousands. No medium has ever been more vulnerable to

destruction, decay and neglect. Films were not only expensive to keep but actually dangerous. The nitrate base on which they were printed until the 1950s was inflammable and chemical changes could suddenly turn it into high explosive.

Even after the film archives began to rescue films, the rate of destruction remained high. Griffith and Eisenstein took precedence over the humbler films that enchanted people week after week in their local fleapits.

These orphans of the Odeons are the films particularly mourned by *Missing Believed Lost*. There are a few classics of course - George Pearson's 1916 thriller *Ulises*; an Expressionist version of Henry Irving's one-time warhorse, *The Bells*; Ivor Novello in *The Constant Nymph*; a 1926 Hitchcock thriller, *The Mountain Eagle*. However, most are "quota quickies", cheap films churned out in the 1930s to take advantage of regulations imposing a minimum quota of British films on cinemas.

These films tended to be made by Hollywood veterans washed up in London, or British youngsters seizing their chance to direct. Among them was the now-venerated Michael Powell, 12 of whose early films are apparently lost for ever. The names of other important film makers of the future often appeared on the credits - David Lean as editor, for example.

The catalogue could be extended endlessly. *Missing Believed Lost* does not, for example, mention one of the most glaring gaps in our cinema history - the disappearance of all evidence of Britain's first woman director, Dinah Shore. In the late 1920s she made a number of features, from which not a single shot appears to survive. Nor is there any trace of what became of Miss Shorey.

Our knowledge of our film heritage is in fact far outweighed by what has been lost and forgotten in less than a century.

DAVID ROBINSON



Still haunting the Tories: Lady Thatcher is a reminder to the party faithful of past triumphs and hopes, while her fallings are forgotten

Lady Thatcher does not speak at the Tory conference to dominate proceedings to be the Brighton Belle. She just has to turn up, to be there, like the same guest, physical proof of her continuing vitality, a reminder to the Tory faithful of past triumphs, hopes and glories.

Since she was so rudely interrupted, what has occurred to efface from Tory minds her memory? Precious little. Her warnings have apparently been vindicated. Lesser persons now struggle in vain against exactly what she warned against, against what she alone might have resisted with bag and cries of no, no, no. Fears of a federal, socialist, centralised and bureaucratic Europe festers in Tory minds. Oh for a Maggie they cry, to save us from it or at least to cap it, sit on its head and reduce it, like the loony left to a benign impotence.

The sins which supposedly caused her downfall are pretty well forgotten. The poll tax for instance. It was unfair, people screamed. Perhaps it was meant to be, to hurt, to bring local voters back to their senses. By now, it might well have done so. If it hurt too much, it could have been cut by her just as by her successors. Little injustices are less resented. As if to render it in retrospect even more acceptable, the Son of Poll Tax now shambles to Westminster to be born. Lady Thatcher's mistakes endure, if at all, to bedevil not her but her luckless successors, leaving her radiant and them mired.

Above all, Lady T appears at Brighton tomorrow as the sole possessor of an "ism" of her own - Thatcherism. Perhaps we can envisage "isms" for other recent British leaders - Callaghanism, Wilsonism, Heathism. But somehow the words have not caught on - perhaps because those to be thus honoured were obviously not in command of events. Their "isms" were thus rudely blown away. Lady T's, by contrast, buffered and awry, effulgently crowns her still. No need for her to speak, unless for cash. Her "ism" speaks for her.

What does it say? What is Thatcherism? A timely but scholarly book by Shirley Robin Lewin tells us all.

The existence and use of the word, like Gaullism, offers a clue. It surely denotes, not some great vaunting theory, pre-existing or supposedly emerging from the facts, all explaining and all mastering. It stands rather for the attitude and reactions of some particular (important) person in some particular place at a particular point in history.

What is Thatcherism about Ask 100 members of the chattering classes and you will probably get more than 100 answers, some

contradictory and few complimentary. A few at random, noted by Dr Lewin: greed sanctified; economics exalted; over all: *laissez-faire* let loose; the rich richer, the poor poorer; help denied to the helpless; hard-headed callousness; more or less centralisation; hypocrisy; impious misuse of the scriptures; moral or pseudo-moral trades and crusades; liberalism; contempt for socialism; for the working classes and their institutions; for trade unions and local government; unremitting activism; no peace; an inability to listen or hear voices urging moderation; failure to "consult" or seek consensus; crass materialism; philistinism; Tesco's flourishing while cathedrals and universities, arts and learning decay.

A few more: monopolies favoured, provided they are private; respect for hallowed traditions; the blasphemous introduction of commercial disciplines into non-commercial sacred places like universities, the health service, and

education, of money changers into the temple; technology vastly overvalued; an arrogant and dispersive insularity; cheap and strident patriotism (the late Peter Jenkins called her "the tin Lady").

All this and much more has been alleged for or against Lady Thatcher and her "ism". I could go on. Dr Lewin does.

Painstakingly, meticulous and sensitively she picks her way through all this chattering detritus, noting, classifying, polishing and preserving whatever is true or part-true or suggestive, discarding whatever is false, and fully explaining why she does so. Note, for instance, what she says about

Thatcherism and tradition, which Lady Thatcher has been accused of brushing aside. Now many of the sacred cows like trade unions and the CBI, local authorities and the BBC which she kicked around or ignored or refused to listen to are seen here as novel growths and, even where richly corrupt, perverted or ossified,

far from traditional. The older British tradition of the historian F.W. Maitland would have scorned all such interests and pressure groups as over-mighty subjects, whom it would be constitutionally improper to defer.

Lady Thatcher was often not breaking with an old tradition but reverting to a still older one. Tory collectivism, "the middle way", against which she revolted, for instance, was a weed of recent growth, imported according to Dr Lewin from the Continent, neither native nor venerable.

It is fascinating to watch her at work, like a skilled and careful surgeon with the most refined and delicate instruments. Never does she sink to polemic or abuse, not even when I, for one, would have welcomed it. For instance, she quotes Tony Crosland as "determined to destroy every grammar school in the land". Before "grammar school" an adjective, I fancy, has been deleted. If so, Dr Lewin is too scrupulous to restore it, though it did confer on Crosland's determination a peculiarly macabre heartlessness.

Her definitions and distinctions are wonderfully nice and precise, often arresting, demanding thought before being accepted. Her book cannot have been easy to

create. It cannot be read with the brain in neutral. It will, none the less, be indispensable to all who seek to understand our recent history, which Thatcherism shaped.

Warmly sympathetic to Lady Thatcher, Dr Lewin is by no means uncritical, especially about education, her own field. As if to illustrate Robert Conquest's dictum that everyone is (most) conservative about what he or she knows (most) about, her tone rises as she denounces the Thatcher government for adopting here "policies most blatantly at odds with its fundamental commitments".

What does Dr Lewin conceive these fundamental commitments to be? One by one, like Beethoven in the last movement of the Choral, testing and rejecting them after themes from previous movements,

she weighs other commitments, economic and so on, in the balance and finds them something less than fundamental, important, yes, but means to a more important end.

In particular she rejects power and money as primary motives for Lady Thatcher and her "ism". Lady Thatcher she allows to be autocratic, perhaps, but far from authoritarian - a distinction not often made by her detractors, though important to Dr Lewin. Central power Lady Thatcher amassed only to devolve it, to give it not to the oppressive subordinate and local participatory farrago bodies favoured by Labour but right the way back to the individual, to the parent, the patient, the unorganised "customer" and wealth creamer.

Again, Lady T is held in these pages to regard the wealth generated by the free market as merely a welcome bonus. The fundamental purpose of the free market is for her *moral*, to promote or permit or restore the "vigorous virtues" (Dr Lewin's key phrase) of the British people, as opposed to the soft virtues which, especially since her hated Sixties, have reduced them to dependence. Her fundamental commitment has always been to the character of both individual and nation. J.S. Mill would have approved.

Lady Thatcher has in Dr Lewin's eyes earned her "ism" by altering the way people here think and behave by vastly enlarging the boundaries of what is deemed politically possible, by reversing the irreversible, by noting the supposedly inevitable dreary trend towards Marxism and sharply barking at it: "Inevitable Inevitability, about TURN!"

Dr Lewin, even at this gloomy moment, believes or hopes that Lady Thatcher's achievements are in their turn irreversible. We shall see. Our present miseries, to be sure, are not caused by any failure of Thatcherism - a failure of Lawsonism, perhaps, though the great original Lawsonite hardly disagrees. Yet presumably, if a decade can change the character of a nation for the better, another decade could change it for the worse. As Lady Thatcher has shown, nothing is inevitable or irreversible - no, not even herself. The analysis of Thatcherism by Shirley Robin Lewin (Fontana, £6.99)

Stand by everybody, here comes the judge

SINGLE LIFE: Lynne Truss on having just that little bit too much done for her



The analogy may not ring bells with everybody else, but the two intensive weeks I just spent at the Pritzlalia in Parma reminded me rather forcibly of *First Term at Mallory Towers*. Not that we were expected to take part in lacrosse trials or anything like that (it's an international radio and television competition, not really a girls' boarding school at all). But in other respects it was eerily similar. You turned up on your first day all bewildered and overwhelmed, wondering how you would ever learn your way around, or understand anything, or make friends; and before long you were planning midnight feasts, vowing lifelong pledges of friendship, nominating the class buffoon, and showing new bugs the short-cut to the lavs.

This was all rather a shock to someone who, in normal circumstances, relishes from the excitement of a visit from Datapost. It was like a different space-time continuum. True, I carried pictures of the cats at all times, but there was little opportunity for homesickness, or indeed sentiment of any kind. Up with the Parman larks, for the official bus to the *palazzo*. Watch TV! Eat lunch! Drink fizzy wine! Watch more TV! Get a bus back! Out to a reception with speeches in Italian, broadcast on live television! Eat dinner! Drink fizzy wine! Do prep! And all the time, talk, talk, talk.

What a whirr. Naturally I shed a few tears on my weary pillow at night - "Oh Mummy, Mummy, why did you send me to Mallory Towers?" - but usually fell asleep

But the danger, oh the danger. Take a normally solitary anxious

person to an event such as this, and she will have to be dragged away, trailing her hair in the dust, intoning the school song and clutching her lacrosse stick with a fierce, unearthly grip. Nobody warned me that it was possible to become institutionalised in a fortnight, but it is. One day, in an effort to push some blood back into the decision-making portion of the brain, I took a morning off from the screaming, and struck out independently towards the *duomo*, purchasing a guidebook en route. But could I really behave like an autonomous person any more? Well, could I *fizzante*, quite honestly.

I did well at first. Nobody offered

me a free drink or a courtesy bus, yet I walked several hundred yards in the right direction. Suffused with the giddy spirit of independence, I sat on the steps of the *duomo* reading my guidebook and deliberately paid no attention to the little group of tourists ushered inside.

Only when I started examining the ceiling, mystified, did I discover that by a happy chance this unknown group was in fact an official (free) Pritzlalia excursion, which would shortly culminate in lunch. At which point I gave in.

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Deep breath for Kent's own opera

In Ashford, Kent, the coming of the Channel tunnel link has inspired the community to help write and perform a new opera. Richard Morrison reports

Jonathan Dove could never be accused of shrinking the big challenge. This is the young composer who condensed Wagner's *Ring* to half its length and a quarter of its orchestration. The result, a brilliant "Reader's Digest" version in two evenings, was taken on the road by City of Birmingham Touring Opera, refreshing the parts that other Wagner cannot reach. He is also the man who set Hastings singing. Two years ago some 200 citizens of the Sussex town performed his community opera, *Hastings Spring*, on the pitch.

Between these projects he does quite normal, compositely things, writing music for films and theatre. But now he has embarked on another colossal project. Last January, Glyndebourne's education department (which was behind the Hastings opera) dumped him and a writer, Alastair Campbell, in the town of Ashford, Kent. They had no storyline, no pre-existing musical ideas and no glimmer of the forces available.

By next March, they will have helped Ashford create the opera that the town never knew it could create. An opera with an Ashford theme, involving every local organisation that wants to contribute.

So far these include seven schools, a technical college, seven instrumental ensembles from the Kent Music School, a youth jazz orchestra, a local heavy-metal band, two ladies' choirs, a brass band, the Ashford Choral Society and, of course, the Ashford Accordion Club. "Luckily I play the accordion myself," says Dove. So that part at least, will be a doddle.

Writing operas for amateurs is not a new idea. It has appealed especially to composers with strong social ideals: Britten, Copland, Henze, Maxwell Davies. But they created community opera only in the sense

that the community was allowed to perform. There was no question of the composer relinquishing control of the creative process.

That is where Dove — and others working in the "outreach" departments of opera companies — are breaking new ground. When Ashford's opera is complete, Dove and Campbell will certainly have nurtured it into life. But many basic ideas, musical and narrative, will have come from townspeople. "That seems only fair," says Dove. "Otherwise I would simply be turning up out of nowhere and saying 'sing this' — in effect, using the town as an enormous ready-made cast. A megalomaniac's dream!"

How does an opera get written by a committee of several hundred amateurs? It sounds like a definition of musical purgatory. Dove and Campbell began holding workshops last January. First they wanted storylines.

"We used workshop techniques common in community drama to tap into local concerns," says Dove.

"Two topics were conspicuous: the Channel tunnel and the railways.

Ashford has always been a railway town, and soon it will be a main junction for tunnel trains.

"For some in Ashford, it means opportunity; for others, it means leaving homes which are being demolished. Equally, our feelings about belonging to Europe are in turmoil. So our scenario is not a clear-cut, golden vision of the future. But neither is it a simplistic 'progress bad versus ecology good' story. We felt we had to honour the complexity of local feelings."

At the same time, Dove and Campbell asked for ideas from the historical "mythology" of Ashford. Somebody recalled the 15th-century Siamese twins, joined at the hip and shoulder, who survived into their thirties and performed legendary



No boring please: Ashford's community opera composer Jonathan Dove beside some of the machinery used in the Channel Tunnel

charitable acts. Then there was the "Holy Maid of Kent", an epileptic who had visions, denounced Henry VIII, and was executed at Tyburn. There were stories of Ashford during the Plague, with victims' relatives being incarcerated in boarded-up houses, and stories of the Blitz of a school being evacuated, and a train being blown up.

Somehow the collaborators hammered this motley bunch of folk memories into a dramatic shape. On the one hand the story is about the opening in December 1993 of the tunnel (Eurotunnel is one of the opera's sponsors), and a plot by a group of disgruntled townsfolk to disrupt the opening pageant by laying on the track in front of the first train from France.

On the other hand, it concerns an adolescent girl, Beth, who lives in a house marked for demolition, its walls cracked by decades of railway

vibration. She has strange dreams of a historical "twin" calling for help as she is burnt for witchcraft, or boarded up in a plague house, or caught in a bombed school during the Blitz. Then the crack in the wall of Beth's house opens up; she walks through, and finds herself in the Channel tunnel. The continual rumbles could be approaching trains — or dragons, deep underground, representing the hidden fears of her and the community.

"We are not talking social realism here," says Dove.

While the plot was being assembled, Dove began music workshops. "People's heads are full of music, if only you can focus and release it," he says. Bits of the text were introduced, and individuals came up with ways of singing them. "My job was to keep my ears

open," says Dove. "I would not have thought of setting any of the songs in the ways that came about through the workshops. In fact if I tried to tamper with a tune, the freshness was lost."

The workshops finished in July. "By then I felt a terrific buzz," says Dove. "The point of these community operas is to release latent creativity, and to bring together local forces that might then work together again. We are already talking about 300 singers. I've been egging on Alastair to think of as many crowd scenes as possible."

Now Dove has an autumn of hard orchestrating ahead. He must tailor all this raw material for bizarre musical conglomerations that has never been assembled before and probably never will again. "One challenge is to write music that's exciting to perform and hear but not too difficult to play. Before I write a

7/8 bar, for instance, I shall certainly think hard about what it will cost in rehearsal time."

While Dove labours at his gigantic score, a Glyndebourne production team will create a design to transform the cavernous Stour Leisure Centre into an operatic venue. Then in January rehearsals begin: weekends first, then every evening for six weeks. Dove envisages several different stages placed around the hall, each with its own instrumental ensemble and conductor.

Rehearsals will clearly be a logistical maelstrom. But there is always room for more performers. "In Hastings," recalls Dove, "a yodelling harmonica player arrived quite late on, and I was thrilled to discover a scene in which that was exactly what we wanted."

● During the coming months *The Times* will be reporting on the progress of the Ashford community opera.

ARTS BRIEF cage's legacy

ONE of John Cage's last works is about to receive its British premiere. *Europa 5*, completed last year, is a typically zany concoction: the last in a series of works looking at European grand opera from an American perspective, and mixing live arias, ancient recordings on crackly 78rpm records and sinister tape noises, as well as a computerised light show. At least the audience will not be looking at their watches: Cage's work lasts precisely one hour, and a clock displayed on television monitors ticks away every magic second. The performance, by the Cambridge New Music Players, is in Blackheath Concert Hall on Friday at 8pm.

All's Wells

A NOTABLE theatrical figure has jumped ship: John Caird is to make his National Theatre directing debut with Pinero's *Trelawny of the 'Wells'*, starring Robin Bailey, Michael Bryant and Helen MacRory. It is scheduled to open at the Olivier in February.

But Caird, formerly an associate director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, has also been active in his erstwhile workplace. Even though his production of Richard Nelson's *Columbus* closed early at the Barbican Theatre, his *Beggar's Opera* is doing well at the Swan and he is rehearsing *Antony and Cleopatra* for the main Stratford house. Meanwhile, a competing West End production of



John Caird: first time directing at the National

Trelawny will provide another debut next year: Sarah Brightman in her first non-musical acting appearance on stage.

Last chance . . .

WYNDHAM LEWIS was an aggressive sort at the best of times, and it is difficult to escape the thought that the first world war suited him down to the ground, enabling him to set all the principles he had been propounding for the previous decade put into practice. His images of the war at the Imperial War Museum (071-416 5000) refuse to see the poetry in the pity, and represent instead anti-humanity doing what its nature requires it to do. Unpleasant, but horribly impressive. Until Sunday.

GALLERIES: John Russell Taylor on the Polish sculptor Igor Mitoraj

Meet an elusive master

In Britain, he first showed signs of Igor Mitoraj's work in a mixed show at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park four years ago, so it is fitting that the YSP should now be hosting his first one-man exhibition here. Or co-hosting, to be more precise, since he also has simultaneously an important loan showing of more indoor-sized work in London at the Accademia Italiana, and further pieces on view at the Berkeley Square Gallery and on the Economist Plaza.

Pretty good going, one might think, for a relatively unknown artist. But this is where British insularity shows itself all too clearly. Virtually everywhere else in the world, Mitoraj is a towering figure in contemporary sculpture, with major museum exhibitions and important commissions prominently in position in places as diverse as Paris, Tokyo, Rome, Atlanta and Milan. He is at first glance easy to categorise: terms like "Post-Modernist" and "Neo-Classical" spring to mind. On reflection, he is not simple to pin down at all.

Partly this must come from his eccentric background. He is Polish, born in 1944, and studied at the Cracow Academy under Tadeusz Kantor — but strictly as a painter. In 1968, during the East European turmoil occasioned by the Prague Spring and its suppression, he escaped to Paris, and there spent some time scraping a living any way he could, waiting on tables and such before he found



Classical grace, formal mastery and wonderful patina: 'Centurione I' is a 1987 bronze by Igor Mitoraj

work as a commercial artist. In the early Seventies, after an extended trip to Mexico, he quite unaccountably began to sculpt. He himself thinks that some of the oddities in his sculpture must come from his having had no formal training. But how to explain his amazing formal mastery of his medium, whether modelled or carved? Apart from a classic use of assistants on the more gigantic pieces, he does it all himself.

It is this formal mastery that at first leads one astray. The Carrara marble pieces are as

always, beneath the evidence of sober studies in the classics, a clearly modern sensibility at work. Though he denies any conscious political intent, he was born under one totalitarian regime and brought up under another. He chooses to give his sculptures uncoloured titles such as *Spring*, *Initiation*, *Hands or Foot*; if he had called them instead *Unknown Political Prisoner* or *Treiblitz*, they would instantly be understood in a very different way.

But then Mitoraj is a 20th-century Pole, not an antique Roman. Polish culture has long thrived on indirection. Polish literature has its own nonsense tradition: Dada and Surrealism, with their wilful dislocation of our responses, thrived in Poland and continue to be deeply ingrained in popular culture.

Some of Mitoraj's favourite images, such as the bound torso and the angels in the process of losing their wings, have unmistakable parallels in the sinister and subversive animated films of Lenina and Borowsky. And like their films, his sculptures can be wickedly and blakely funny too.

As the variety of venues for these shows suggests, Mitoraj can work in any size from the minute to the monumental. Henry Moore said, early on, that every sculpture has its own right size and no other. Latterly he failed to practise what he preached. Mitoraj follows Moore's first insight to the letter: a change of scale always involves a rethinking of the whole concept.

Post-Modernism engenders mistrust because it often seems to let artists get away with arranging and rearranging the basic counters of classical style without penetrating deeper into the nature of life or of art. In Mitoraj it is one then something very peculiar begins to emerge. The swathings are distinctly strange in their effect: it is all a matter of resonance: maybe of torture and imprisonment, of immunities in their tombs, even of the cinematic Invisible Man, whose bandages gave form to the void within. And then, the pure ideal figures prove on closer inspection to carry strange wounds. They may have tiny faces or feet growing in the most unlikely places. Sometimes they are pierced by transverse shafts, which might enable light to pass through, or could indicate the passage of a particularly hefty spear.

At first sight that is But then something very peculiar begins to emerge. The swathings are distinctly strange in their effect: it is all a matter of resonance:

Mozart Symphony No. 39 in E flat, K543
Szymanowski Violin Concerto No. 1
Bartók Concerto for Orchestra
Seat Prices £25 £19 £15 £13 £9.50 £6
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Television is understandably comfortable with war as a programme source, there being a million anecdotes on the subject and a million miles of footage with which to underplay them. The audience appears to be equally comfortable, having seen, in this century, war and media technology march forward as handmaiden, from crude and delayed newsreel film out of the 1914-18 conflict to as-it-happens videotape in the Gulf.

Perhaps the central attraction of war as entertainment is its perceived moral simplicity. The good guys versus the bad guys. This gives all of us a role. Within a day of the Gulf war starting, people in pubs were talking about us and them: "We've got them over a barrel." But in all war since time began, most of us have not faced most of them. We send our proxies, make heroes of those who return and of those who do not.

But heroism was never so simple, nor was cowardice. *Battlefields* began a four-part series last night with *Heroes and Cowards*, an interesting if not conclusive exposition of the drive which sends men forward into certain danger and of the moments when this drive is usually inexplicably, simply turned off.

Cases were cited from the first world war, and the second, and the Falklands and Northern Ireland. Of the ones from which some conclusion could be drawn, a world war two bomb-aimer who simply froze, "went into limbo", soon after take off one night was the most interesting. He had botched it, but suddenly it seized him. The bomber had to turn back and the bomb-aimer was whisked off to hospital, cut off from his mates.

His choices were stark. He could either go back (if the crew would have him), or be taken off active service as an "LMF casualty". Lacking Moral Fibre. To say that a man who is afraid of dying in a war that claimed the lives of half the men who flew for Bomber Command lacks moral fibre is curiously ruthless and scarily exact smear, but this target of it chose to go back.

TELEVISION REVIEW

The hero and the coward are two sides of the same coin

Battlefields

BBC 2

of cowardice had been poised over his personal file.

This example got to a likely if prosaic truth, which is that heroism and cowardice are two sides of the same coin. It did not examine the role of incentive, whereby it might be argued that the courage to

drop bombs on nameless Germans was more elusive than that needed to rescue a person one knew by name.

Nor was intelligence examined. The ill-educated have always been the cannon fodder of war because they can be relied upon not to think too deeply. The military does not encourage thinking, which is its strength and its weakness.

PETER BARNARD

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Mother's boy, cannibal or the last of the libertines?



Austere look: Robert Wilson has a fresh interpretation

What does one of the leading avant-garde theatre directors and designers — the 50-year-old Texan Robert Wilson — have in common with the poet and literary director of Spain's National Theatre, Vicente Molina? What, indeed, does he have in common with Spain?

Very little is the answer. But the cultural cocktail has produced a new version of the Don Juan story. *Don Juan Ultimo* (*The Last Don Juan*) had its world première in Madrid's María Guerrero Theatre last week. It was billed as one of the highlights of Madrid's autumn festival (in this city's last three months as Europe's Cultural Capital), and is expected to tour Italy, and then France.

Wilson says the interest for him in doing *Don Juan* stemmed from the fact that

like other characters he has treated on stage, such as Queen Victoria, Stalin and Einstein, Don Juan is widely known. "He is a part of all of us, men and women, and ingrained in our mythical consciousness," Wilson says.

As a result "we all come to the theatre sharing a common knowledge of *Don Juan*". Which is just as well, as the Texan's play is not interpretative or narrative. It simply raises questions about the character, leaving it to the audience to draw conclusions.

Adding to the ambiguity, Wilson believes that the visual part of the play, or what he calls "the visual book" — consisting of the way the

actors and actresses are distributed on the stage, their movements, and lighting and colour effects — should convey stage "pictures" that have a life of their own, and which are independent of the text. The approach does not come off. Some of the tableau, precisely because they are so disconnected, are slow, tedious and confusing.

Molina's text, written in Spanish and in free-verse, is also open-ended, and has some original ideas. One is that *Don Juan* is a mother's boy, succoured on sweets, and maids' caresses. Another is that there is not one *Don Juan* but several, and they can be as different as the women in his

life — child-like, vindictive, lustful, guilt-ridden. This idea is illustrated on the stage by doubles. Meanwhile, a film projection in the play shows a man in the jungle who takes the idea of possessing women to a ghoulish, imaginary conclusion: cannibalism.

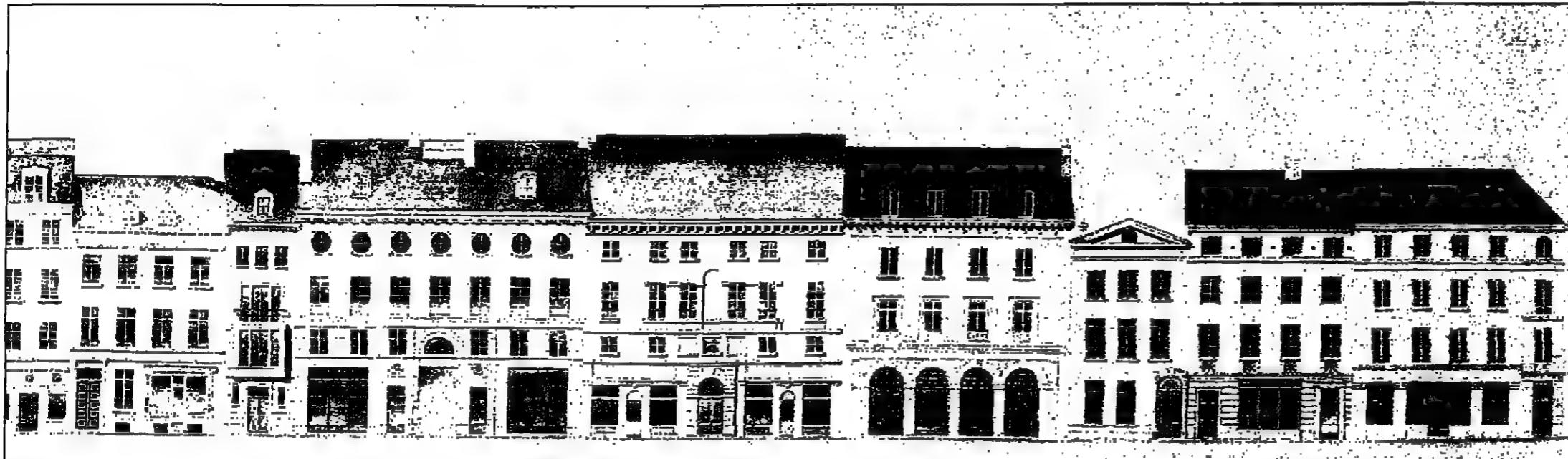
What these ideas add to our knowledge of *Don Juan* is far from clear. For instance, what do the doubles suggest? That *Don Juan* has a split-personality, or that he is driven to seduce women to satisfy a desire as a collector? The text provides no answers.

Wilson admits that there was a cultural clash during the rehearsals. In his plays — which he says have a lot in

common with 14th century Japanese theatre — the movements of the actors are very controlled and their voices have to be calm. "This is to give the audience an experience that is both internal and reflective, and exterior," Wilson says. However, in the Spanish character emotions tend to be on the surface. Learning Wilson's formal techniques therefore must have gone against the grain for most of the actors, though this was not apparent from the finished performance, which was of a high standard. Indeed, at the end of the première the audience applauded the actors much more than either Wilson or Molina, who were seated.

JANE MONAHAN

Has royal crusade become a cult?



Prize design: town houses in the Rue de Laeken in Brussels, each designed by a young architect and co-ordinated under one guiding hand into the row which will be finished by the summer of 1993

Is the Prince of Wales's architectural platform being hijacked by extremists? By a clique intent on promoting a narrower version of his ideas to their own ends?

The prince himself, opening the exhibition *A Vision of Europe* in Bologna last week, felt it necessary to issue some coded words of caution: "I am told this exhibition is based on the principles in my book, *A Vision of Britain*, and if this is so, I am delighted." The prince's vision is essentially a human one. His proposed village at Poundbury and other Duchy of Cornwall projects are intended to provide affordable housing for local people, with opportunities to work near their homes. This is in danger of being subsumed in a war of styles in which classical solutions are presented as the only acceptable ones.

The most extreme position is taken by the always incisive David Watkin, in the Bologna catalogue. "I would like to find a classical airport terminal... where the seats will be Klismos chairs and the signs will be written in Trajan lettering." Faintly absurd perhaps, but a wish that is likely to be fulfilled if airports follow the pattern of 1970s hotels which have filled their foyers with Georgian panelling.

There are signs of a crusade becoming a cult. Leon Krier, the brilliant philosopher-architect who fired much of the prince's thinking

on cities, slips a little too easily into the mould of high priest, not least because of his habit, always a white silk cravat. Look closely at the seductive painting of Krier's imaginary classical city of Atlantis on Tenerife, and there, presiding at the opening ceremony are the King and Queen of Spain.

Liam O'Connor, joint organiser of the exhibition, says its aim is "to show that the prince's ideas on traditional urbanism find an enthusiastic echo all over Europe". So it is disconcerting to discover that the first exhibit is a model of Port Grimaud in the south of France, surely one of the most exclusive developments in Europe. The thrill of Port Grimaud comes as much from the forest of high masted yachts as the Venetian architecture. It is hardly a model for inner city revival. The same can be said of the new town of Kemper, Istanbul, by Andras Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, creators of the classical resort of Seaside in Florida. They make clever use of traditional Turkish motifs such as overhanging roofs and loggias, but the town is a high security "gated" development with houses selling for about \$500,000 (£290,000).

The exhibition is the more inter-

esting because it provokes. Inevitably, on so ambitious a project, the material is of varied nature. But it is also of very varied quality. For example, Demetri Porphyros's superb new quad for Magdalen College, Oxford, is exhibited with a car-infested newly-paved square in Battersea, in the London borough of Wandsworth, where one exasperated shopkeeper closed down saying: "I can survive recession, high interest rates, Mr Major, but not Wandsworth paving stones."

A project for a new town at Iratxe in Spain committs the worst excesses of modernist commercial development in its disregard for a rolling pastoral landscape. It is set on an artificial platform, half cut into the hillside, half supported on a hideous retaining wall. A masterpiece for the new centre of Zola Predosa in Italy has cliff-like flats of Ceausescu proportions, while "social housing" by Charles van den Hove in Brussels and Amsterdam has clumsy mar-

sards and silly "clip on" gables. Britain, and no doubt Holland too, could have provided far more attractive schemes, such as those Levitt Bernstein and Pollard Thomas Edwards have recently devised for housing associations.

Happily the exhibition also presents many good schemes begging to be built. In Toulouse, Philippe Giscard has drawn up a masterly scheme for boxing in a grotesque multi-storey car park with streets of traditional apartments. In Stockholm, Harvar Andrighi ingeniously surrounds an Edwardian sanatorium with traditional streets and avenues. "It was the first time a developer came to me saying he wanted something traditional," he says.

Most brilliant of all is the proposal by the German Helmuth Peuker for healing the gash which Mussolini opened up through the streets in front of St Peter's in Rome. Peuker would fill the centre of Il Duce's windblown boulevard with a gallery of shops

and restaurants. Was it commercially viable, I asked Geoffrey Wilson, the promoter of the Paternoster scheme north of St Paul's, which has pride of place in the exhibition? "You're out of date. That's not the test anymore. It's what people think is commercially viable when they begin," he replied ardently.

Among completed projects the French and the Spanish make the strongest showing. At Rochefort, Louis XIV's naval base south of La Rochelle, the architect Bruno Cousy has produced streets of new housing which every planner in Europe should see. Forgetting the goldfish bowl street lamps, here is simple, brightly painted vernacular, given character by constantly varied windows, shutters and doors, with the cornice line changing subtly from house to house.

The badge of courage goes to Ernst Schirrmacher for his reconstruction of a row of large traditional gabled houses on Frankfurt's Körnerberg Square. "It was done against the strong recommendations of the architectural jury," the catalogue says. "Long before the buildings were completed they met with universal condemnation from the architectural Press but were broadly welcomed by people of all

ages, professions and stations."

Spain produces good examples of literal classicism in a columned, panted community hall at Muskiz, and a spectacular crescent of new apartments at Olot, by Ramon Fontan, fronted by a majestic sweep of paired columns. This is let down, alas, by the metal windows behind the colonnade which have all too visible blemishes between the storeys.

The best single role model is a scheme in the Rue de Laeken, in Brussels where the AG insurance company held a competition for young architects (under 40) to design a town house which was co-ordinated into a row under one guiding hand. Nothing is over-worked or overstated, detailing is crisp and windows, shop fronts and cornice lines constantly varied from house to house.

This is welcome if only because in the exhibition as a whole the classicists are showing a tendency to become as fixated with the work of Bouleé, Ledoux and Schinkel as modernists have ever been with Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe and Frank Lloyd Wright, or Foster, Rogers and Stirling. There is little prospect that the exhibition will travel but it is accompanied by a handsome catalogue published by Alinea Edizioni of Florence.

• *A Vision of Europe* is on show at S. Giorgio in Poggio, Via Nazario Sauro, Bologna, until November 1.

Diane Hill visits a Paris exhibition that drags cigarette packaging into the 1990s

The exhibition is the more interesting because it provokes

■ AMSTERDAM: The work of the Swiss Post-Impressionist Félix Vallotton is on show in Amsterdam — the largest retrospective of his art ever assembled outside Switzerland. Paris-trained, Vallotton first exhibited his work in 1885 but only acquired widespread acclaim for his black and white woodcuts in 1891. This exhibition comprises a hundred paintings and 50 works on paper including the woodcuts. Van Gogh Museum, third floor, Paulus Potterstraat 7 (010 3120 5705200). Until Nov 1.

■ AMSTERDAM: Borrowed from the Frits Lugt Collection in Paris, *Drawings from the Age of Bruegel* is a collection of 16th-century Netherlandish drawings of high quality offering a clear reflection of the artistic movements of that period.

Rijksmuseum, Stadhouderskade 42 (010 3120 6732121). Until Nov 8.

■ BRUSSELS: Théâtre National's winter season brings stagings of *Le Purjatoire* after Dante (until Oct 24); Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* (Oct 26-31); Georg Büchner's *Léonce et Léna* (Nov 10-14); and Beaumarchais's *Le Barbier de Séville* (Nov 25-Dec 12).

Théâtre National Communauté Française de Belgique, Centre Roger (010 322 2170303).

■ BRUSSELS: The Brussels Philharmonic Society programme of October concerts features the Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Nicholas Harnoncourt playing Beethoven, Schumann and Haydn (Oct 16); the well-known partnership of André De Groote, piano, and Virginie Spangenberg, cello, play sonatas by Enescu, Britten and Shostakovich (Oct 19); Yehudi Menuhin directs three musical ensembles and four soloists in a gala concert to celebrate the inauguration of the International Menuhin Association for children (Oct 21); Elisabeth Leonskaya, piano, and Philippe Hirschorn, violin, play sonatas by Beethoven (Oct 20); and the Kuijken Quartet play quartets by Mozart and Haydn (Oct 31).

Henry Le Boeuf Concert Hall, 23 rue Ravenstein (Information: 010 322 507 8410/8200).

■ FERRARA: The music of Brahms dominates a series of concerts given by the Chamber Orchestra of Europe during a short residency at the Teatro Comunale during November. An all-Brahms concert conducted by Ivan Fischer opens the series on November 3 (with Peter Donohoe the soloist in the Piano Concerto for piano and orchestra). There are further concerts on November 6, 7, 9, 12. Information: Ferrara Musica, Corso Giovecca, 38-44100 Ferrara (010 39532 20220).

■ PARIS: A co-production between Opéra Comique and the Massenet Festival of Massenet's opera *Esclarmonde*, receives an airing in Paris following its Festival premiere. Anna Maria Gonzales and Denia Mazzola will share the role of Esclarmonde. Patrick Fournillier conducts.

Opéra Comique, 5 rue Favart, 75200 Paris (010 331 42961220). Nov 18, 20, 21, 22, 25-28.

■ PARIS: The autumn season of Spanish and Latin American drama at the Odéon is rounded off with Lope de Vega's *Le Chevalier d'Olmedo*, a "cloak-and-dagger" play of the Spanish Golden Age, in a new French translation by poet Zeno Blau.

Théâtre de l'Europe, Odéon, 1 place Paul Claudel, Paris (010 331 43257032). Nov-Dec.

■ PARIS: Opening tomorrow is a new production of *La Bayadère* by l'Opéra de Paris with choreography by Rudolf Nureyev after Marius Petipa. The ballet is set in a fantastical India and revolves around a temple dancer, a bayadère loved by a warrior who is pledged to the jealous daughter of a rajah.

Opéra de Paris Garnier, 8 rue Scribe (010 331 47425371). Tomorrow, Fri Oct 12, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 30, 31.

■ VIENNA: Peter Wood produces a new staging of the Verdi opera *Macbeth* for Vienna State Opera, with designs by Carl Toms. Renato Bruson sings Macbeth and Mara Zampieri, Lady Macbeth. Vienna Staatsoper, Österreichisches Theater, Burgtheater, Vienna (010 43 15131513). Nov 2, 5, 8.

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■ SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED.

Mozart's music in lost palaces

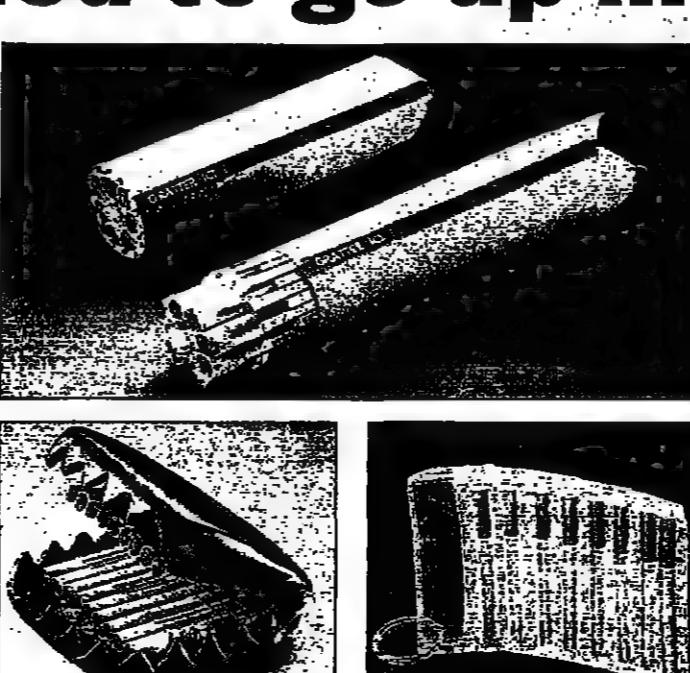
The Villa Pisani at Bagnolo di Lonigo, near Vicenza, would hardly top anybody's list of early work by the 16th century Italian architect, quite humble and rustic. Apparently he had to incorporate some remains of a ruined castle on the riverside site, and was not satisfied with the result, having an unruled variant of his collected works. Moreover, the house is now separated from the river by raised flood defences and a newer boundary wall, so that the entrance facade is hemmed in and the only approach is from the landward side towards the back entrance.

All the same, it is a fascinating building, not least because it has never been open to the public. It has remained in the Pisani family from the time it was built (in stages between 1542 and 1569) up to its present owner, the Marchese Lepri.

The house was semi-derelict before the long process of restoration began about ten years ago, financed by the Veneto Congressi (a government heritage fund) and the family, and all carried out according to the methods of building and finishing used in Palladio's day. Now that restoration is complete, the villa seemed the perfect candidate for the second occasion in the United Nations' project of rediscovering "The Lost Palaces of Europe". Last year, the first charity concert was given in St Petersburg, in the Tsar's Palace section of the Hermitage, closed to the public since the Russian Revolution.

This year's fund-raising concert

Designed to go up in smoke



The winning design, top, a tubular pack encircled by a band of text. Other exhibits include, below left, a flexi-pack that clips to a belt and a box that snaps shut when anyone tries to take a cigarette

studio in 1990, the win means FF10,000 prize money and the strong possibility that his design will go into production.

Jean-Michel Polcar's pack of three, which sits snugly in a holder that hooks over the ear, has limited commercial appeal but its ingenuity won the jury's *coup de cœur* and FF10,000 francs. M. Polcar, a 22-year-old design student and non-smoker, says he got the idea from his habit of sticking pencils behind his ear.

There is however no reason why some of the other ideas should not be taken up by a cigarette company. The long strips of cigarettes vacuum packed like pills, designed by Françoise Perfettini, an architect, and Pierre Verger, a designer, have commercial flair, as does the work

of Tanja Messaqaudine Chebi, a design student. She created flexible plastic packs each holding eight cigarettes, that can be attached to a belt. The architect Olivier Védrine's single cigarettes, displayed in transparent tubes topped with a three-dimensional replica of the manufacturer's trademark, are potential collectors' items.

Many of the designs have built-in devices for keeping tabs on cigarette consumption, ranging from numbering every cigarette, to sectioning a pack of twelve into four tear-off packs of three. In one design, a pair of jaws which snap shut on the fingers overtly discourage the taking of a cigarette.

Smokers in France, where laws are shortly to come into force that ban smoking in many public places and demand that restaurants and cafés have non-smoking areas, these are useful devices.

All thirty projects are on display at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, backed up by a SEITA exhibition of tobacco through the ages, which reminds us that in 1555 Jean Nicot was exiling its medical virtues.

However, the most forceful comment is made by the designer Stefan Pollet, with a simple geometric, white pack, nicely lined in purple. The sophisticated black-banded cigarettes lie wreathed in matches. So elegant is the design, so exquisite its execution, that its sheer beauty makes it a desirable object. The realisation that it is a coffin comes slowly but surely and the dedication "to Beatrice, my beloved" takes on new meaning.

• Metz le Paquet runs until December 3. Smoking is not allowed.

KARI KNIGHT

Up sticks and at 'em: sex war is simmering in an unlikely quarter. Oliver Bennett reports on female penetration of a male dancing cabal



Leading the traditionalists a dance around the villages of Britain: more than 1,000 women have taken up morris, despite the view of objectors that it has its roots in pagan fertility rites, and females might be spoiling the magic

Morris dancing is an odd affair that arouses a mixed public response somewhere between contempt and admiration. The writer Arnold Barn wrote in *Farewell to My Youth* that "one should try everything once, except incest and folk-dancing". But that has not deterred an ever-increasing number of women from joining and starting morris "sides", as the teams are known. Instead of accepting the female converts, however, many men in the morris fraternity resent this female intervention.

Behind the rattling bells, banging sticks and rustic pleasantness of morris, there is an ongoing skirmish in the sex war.

Though the women are gaining ground, some morris men still refuse to dance if there are women morris dances around, and repudiate the female right to dance. "If there's women dancing, it's not morris" is the archaic phrase that tends to be muttered. That attitude has stuck to the Morris Ring, which is the largest morris dance organi-

Can a woman be a morris man?

sation in the country and, like the Garrick Club and the Magic Circle, one of a dying breed of male-only institutions in Britain.

Jill Rowan, a 39-year-old screen printer and morris dancer for 20 years, said: "I suppose that traditionally morris has been a male dance, and some have argued that it is a dance geared to the male body, in that it is perceived to be virile and muscular. A lot of objectors think it has its roots in pagan fertility rites, and that if women dance it spoils the magic."

To counteract these entrenched attitudes, a group of women dancers formed the Women's Morris Federation in 1976, which since the early 1980s has been called the Morris Federation. Along with the Morris Ring and a more informal group called Open Morris, they make up the three main morris groups in the country. Of the three,

Morris Ring is the most traditional: the federation is quite academic and the Open Morris Group is more about having fun. Some are reluctant to focus on women's morris, because they don't want to bring the stain of sexual politics into their favourite activity. But there is no doubt that some aspects of morris are very conservative.

"If we say it's OK for women to dance, we'll split the organisation down the middle," says Chas Arnold, of the Morris Ring. "It's a minefield. In the early 20th century it was felt that morris dance was an ancient fertility rite and could therefore only be done by men, and the Morris Ring was set up in that atmosphere.

Morris history, and the sex issue in particular, causes much disagreement, but among several regional variations, there are special women's pieces such as the

Gairland Dance and the Faggot Dance.

Though the Morris Ring is strictly male, it does not have a policy on women members.

"They're happy with the federation set-up," Mr Arnold says.

However, when the Women's Morris Federation became the male-only Morris Ring and the organisation is now composed of both sexes.

Though women dancers have found it difficult to penetrate the male morris cabal, their interest has revitalised the dance. Sally Wearing, a health and safety engineer and president of the Morris Federation, says: "We originally started in 1975 just for women. We needed support for each other. In the early 1970s many women started to dance, and

the rise is still continuing. Women are good at it, they enjoy it and it is great fun." The federation is now flourishing, according to Ms Wearing, and now, with this year's dancing season coming to an end, there are well over 1,000 women morris dancers in the country, many of whom are on its cards.

Nowadays morris dance tends to be middle class, largely attracting professionals, such as teachers. But before this century, it is thought to have been a male, working class and often solo pursuit. The first records of it date from around the 15th century, though many think it dates back to pagan Albion.

Contemporary history of morris dance usually starts with folk historian and collector Cecil Sharp's famous 1899 discovery of morris dances led by William

Kimber in Headington, Oxford, but a woman may have been crucial to its survival. Malcolm Taylor, the librarian at The English Folk Song and Dance Society at Cecil Sharp House in north London, believes that morris may not be around today if it was not for a philanthropist called Mary Neal.

"Sharp was keen on noting the music, but Neal promoted the dance side and recorded the steps," he says. "In the 1960s and 1970s, women's sides began to form and Mary Neal was an important figure in that."

Between the wars, morris was still taught in school, and many older people remember dancing. "Then everybody stopped doing things together," Ms Rowan says. "Our generation came along and said we want a bit of real fun with real people."

Morris came back and must-

roomed, at the same time as the rediscovery in the late 1960s and 1970s of other traditional things such as real ale and local festivals. Dorothy Monks, of the Open Morris Group, says: "The more women there are the better. I think more men accept that women dance now, and the more hide-bound ones are leaving morris because they are getting too old. The women enjoy it and the social life is good. Morris is now a living thing."

As far as Jill Rowan is concerned, the pleasure of women's morris is worth all the antipathy from the more fogy elements, and helps to prevent morris dance from becoming fossilised.

"Once you get involved with morris it becomes your social life," she says. "It's taken up most of my leisure time for 15 years. It's supposed to be magical, and as far as I'm concerned, it is magic. But if it is to be a living tradition, as we prefer to think it is, then it has to keep on changing."

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Italy's unrepentant revolutionary



Fighting talk: Emilia Callini has become a national symbol of fiery trade union anger

Emilia Callini, Italian communist MP and car factory worker, is stirring protest against enforced austerity

As opposition grows in Italy to the tough austerity measures being introduced by the government, Emilia Callini has jettisoned her roles as car factory worker, strike activist and MP to become a national symbol of fiery trade union anger.

Voters in the general election in April gave Signora Callini a parliamentary seat for the hard-line Rifondazione Comunista (Communist Refoundation) party with 2,400 votes in the working-class constituency of Milan, Pavia.

"I didn't think I would be elected," Signora Callini, 36, said at her office in the Montecitorio parliament building. "We communists of Alfa Romeo used to stand for the Chamber of Deputies as a demonstration of the popular struggle. I campaigned for a vote against Fiat [which acquired Alfa Romeo in 1986]. My election was a surprise for us all."

Signora Callini was born in the town of Lignano on the outskirts of Milan, the daughter of a foreman "who was not interested in politics" and a mother who was a fervent member of the Italian communist party. She began work with Alfa Romeo when she was 16. At the end of her shift, she went to night school and obtained a diploma in business studies.

She began studying for a degree in political science at Milan University but dropped out. "It was too hard on my life. I decided to work full time in the union and politics," she says.

Signora Callini has made

her mark in the Chamber of Deputies by adopting the tactics of a shop steward. "I took a photocopy of a Fiat pay packet and distributed it in the assembly. Deputies should know that car workers earn only 1,400,000 lire (£674) a month. I was called by the Speaker and reprimanded."

Last week Signora Callini was at the head of tens of thousands of workers marching through Milan to protest against the austere budget drawn up by the government. Many of the protesters also denounced an historic agreement in July between trade unions, employers and the government abolishing the Scala Mobile, a wage index that economists said had contributed to inflation for 47 years.

Proposed government cuts in welfare and pension spending make her spit fire. "What this government is doing is to make those Italians pay who always have paid, without touching the big incomes," she says. "It is true that pensions such as 'baby pensions' [a scheme whereby state employees sometimes retire in their 40s] need reforming. But this government is incapable of sensible reform."

Signora Callini finds most abominable the proposed swingeing cuts to be made by the cabinet of the prime minister, Giuliano Amato, in the health service. These would end free medical care for everyone with incomes of 40

million lire a year (£19,000), subject to allowances for family size. "It is shameful that a family must decide at the first symptom of a sick child if they can afford to send him to a doctor or not."

The prospect of health cuts touches Signora Callini personally. She has a two-year-old son, Massimiliano. He stays with his husband Renzo at Lignano during the week when I come to parliament in Rome. An aunt helps us out."

Her husband is a militant trade union activist on the assembly line at the Alfa plant. He has been sacked and reinstated eight times. "He is not the only one," she says.

Her election to parliament has led to a battle with her employers to keep her job. "I made a request to work one day a week at Alfa. Every week I will go to the factory and present myself to the workers. At the beginning the firm seemed very agreeable to the idea verbally. But then they sent me a letter in which the firm refused to let me work one day a week. They said at the end of my mandate I will be laid off. Certainly they see my presence as a disturbance."

Her party, Rifondazione Comunista, was founded as a hardline Marxist breakaway grouping from the old Italian Communist Party (PCI) and another left-wing grouping, Proletarian Democracy in 1991. The bulk of the PCI decided to abandon Marxism altogether and formed the

work to obtain a pension. There are many women today who work as shop assistants or factory workers. Their choice is not for personal gratification. It is to supplement the salary of their companion. Now women will have to stay at work for more long years, in many cases in slave-like conditions, and then go home to work as housewives."

Signora Callini admits that playing so many roles as wife, mother, trade unionist and MP has left her sometimes wondering if she has not sold herself short.

"I try to reconcile important choices of life with politics, which is the most difficult thing for a wife. I try to reconcile my life with my companion and my son with my right to be in politics. Certainly I am losing the most beautiful years with my son. I am trying. Perhaps I am not succeeding."

JOHN PHILLIPS



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Jane Mills found real "sisterhood" only after her own sister, and lifelong competitor, was murdered

In memory of Carolyn



Early rivals: sisters Jane (left), Carolyn (right) and Ruth

Late one Sunday night in July the phone woke me up. I groaned; no doubt my sister Carolyn had timed yet another crisis to cause me maximum inconvenience. This time I'd tell her firmly to call me at a civilised hour.

I never got the chance to put the phone down on her. The call was to tell me her body had been found in an orchard in her South Yorkshire village. She had been raped and murdered.

I replaced the receiver and roamed the house screaming. This wasn't like the death of my parents, when I felt numbed by absence and loss. I experienced Carolyn's violent death as physical pain.

And yet we were not the closest of sisters. We had spent our childhood locked in sibling rivalry. She was the one person above all others I knew I wanted to be different from. It was possibly the only thing on which we agreed. We kicked up a huge fuss when forced into identical frocks. The worst thing in the world for me was to be made to wear clothes she had grown out of.

This rivalry and the determination to deny all experiences and tastes we might have in common, persisted in adult-

hood. My mother caused much more than annoyance when she confused our voices on the phone. For most of our adult life Carolyn and I barely spoke to each other.

About three years ago I discovered Carolyn was going through difficult times but wasn't able to tell me herself. I felt extraordinarily hurt. And ashamed.

Where Carolyn and I trod, other sisters have gone before. Christina Rossetti was torn in two. Dedicating *Goblin Market* to her sister she idealised the relationship: "For there is no friend like a sister/In calm or stormy weather". But in *Sister Maude*, she consigned her denigrated sibling to hell: "But sister Maude, oh sister Maude/Bide you with death and sin".

Not even Simone de Beauvoir was immune. In childhood games she always cast herself as a saint or martyr and her younger sister, Hélène, as the mean torturer.

I know this ambivalence well. It was a tension that Carolyn and I had tried to dissolve in recent months. But it was not easy. We both felt too threatened by any possible sameness. Our very last phone-call ended in an ab-

sidogynistic movie which aimed to gross millions by portraying male sexual violence as titillating entertainment. I don't know a woman who is not invaded by these images when we read in the papers of a woman who died as Carolyn did.

I probably have a larger repertoire than most since I once made a documentary for BBC's *Omnibus* programme on the subject. My research involved viewing over 200 movies in which the camera lovingly closes in on the terrified face of the female rape and murder victim. I commissioned a script about rape which was filmed in two ways. The same story delivered one film in which it was turned into a sexually exciting spectacle and another in which it was depicted as the violent act it truly is. It exposed the truths behind the myths about sexual violence constantly reinforced in popular cinema.

These myths emerged in the days immediately after Carolyn was raped and murdered. What exactly was a 49-year-old divorcee (read adventures) doing walking home alone (read wayward) at one o'clock in the morning? (Only witches, bats and prostitutes come out

at night.) Having been to a wedding party (read drunk) what else could an unattached (read scarlet) woman expect? And, like all female victims of sexual violence, she was "attractive" — has a murdered man ever been described as "handsome"? The innuendos were implicit in all the tabloid newspaper reports. Her right independence and to a safe walk home were not mentioned.

A week later a local man gave himself up. I got comfort from the fact that, unlike most women, Carolyn, had been murdered by a complete stranger. A few days earlier I had heard the police officer in charge of the murder hunt say no woman was safe until he was caught. I stopped inspecting the face of every man I saw for signs of possible guilt. But I don't feel safe.

Some years ago I was attacked as I walked home alone late one night. I was lucky. My attacker failed to rape or murder me. That night I learnt that however much I wanted to reclaim the night it was not something a woman could do on her own. I never got round to sharing this knowledge with Carolyn.

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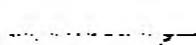
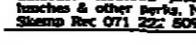
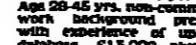
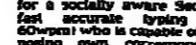
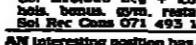
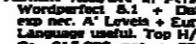
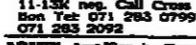
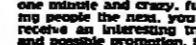
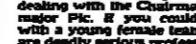
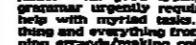
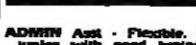
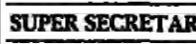
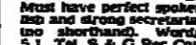
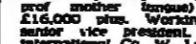
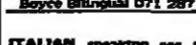
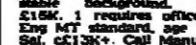
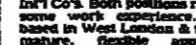
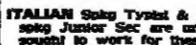
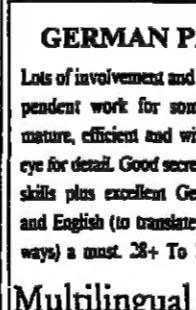
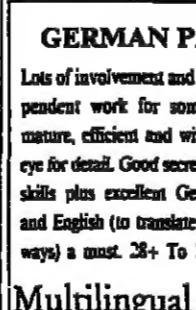
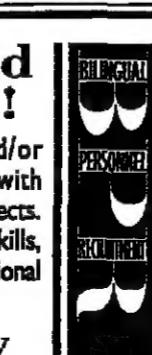
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Court of Appeal

Indictment capable of amendment

Regina v Tyler and OthersBefore Lord Justice Farquharson, Mr Justice Tudor Evans and Mr Justice Rougier
Judgment August 14

A count in an indictment which charged that a defendant and others had "used or threatened" unlawful violence contrary to the offence of riot in section 1(1) of the Public Order Act 1986 was defective, but the indictment was not a nullity and was capable of amendment.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing appeals against convictions on March 6 at Northwich Crown Court. George Birrell and a jury of Patrick John Taylor, one count of violent disorder contrary to section 2(1) of the 1986 Act and Terry Frost and Andrew Hester on one count each of riot. The court also heard appeals against sentences by those defendants and Christine Hammert, who had been convicted on one count of violent disorder.

Mr Ian Jobling for Tyler, Mr Charles Burton for Frost, Mr Brian Reece for Hester and Mr Stephen Kamish for Hammert, all counsel assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals. Ms David Stokes, QC and Mr Julian Christopher for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE FAR-**QUHARSON**, giving the judgment of the court, said that the offence arose out of incidents which had occurred during a demonstration in Colchester on March 17, 1990 against the imposition of the community charge.

Mr Burton submitted that the indictment on which all the defendants had been arraigned was fundamentally defective and therefore faulty.

The particulars of offence in the count of riot were: "(The named defendants) ... together with 11 or more other persons being present together used or threatened unlawful violence for a common purpose and the conduct of them (taken together) was such as would cause a person of reasonable firmness present at the scene to fear for his personal safety."

The offence in section 1(1) of the 1986 Act was: "Where 12 or more persons who are present together used or threatened unlawful violence for a common purpose and the conduct of them (taken together) was such as would cause a person of reasonable firmness present at the scene to fear for his personal safety."

Mr Burton now submitted, *inter alia*, that the indictment was invalid from the outset in that it alleged an offence unknown to the law and that the defect was fundamental and could not be corrected by amendment.He relied on *R v Lamb (Thomas) [1968] 1 WLR 1940* and *R v Gaston ([1981] 7 Cr App R 164)* where it was held that a count of attempted rape *per se annul* alleged offence which did not exist in law.The Crown relied on *R v McVicar ([1960] 2 QB 483)*, where

to be guilty of riot it had to be proved that he or she used unlawful violence for the common purpose, whereas the particulars of offence were cast in wider terms, alleging that the accused "used or threatened" unlawful violence.

The court therefore rejected the argument that the indictment was a nullity, held that it was merely defective in that it described a known offence with incomplete particulars.

The court's task was to decide whether line of authority was appropriate to the present case.

The statement of offence clearly disclosed the correct offence but widened its ambit to "threaten" as well as the "use" of violence. That was not in the same category as alleging an offence which did not exist, as in *Gaston*; it was an imperfect description of one that did.In those circumstances the defect was valid of amendment on the basis laid down in *McVicar*.

It was conceded that Frost suffered no conviction as a result of the amendment of the indictment.

For those and other reasons the court dismissed Frost's appeal against conviction, and for reasons given, dismissed the other appeals against conviction.

Solicitors CPS, Essex.

the indictment was defective because the particulars of offence in a count alleging an offence contrary to section 4(1) of the Explosive Substances Act 1883 did not include the word "knowingly".

The court therefore rejected the argument that the indictment was a nullity, held that it was merely defective in that it described a known offence with incomplete particulars.

The court's task was to decide whether line of authority was appropriate to the present case.

The statement of offence clearly disclosed the correct offence but widened its ambit to "threaten" as well as the "use" of violence. That was not in the same category as alleging an offence which did not exist, as in *Gaston*; it was an imperfect description of one that did.In those circumstances the defect was valid of amendment on the basis laid down in *McVicar*.

It was conceded that Frost suffered no conviction as a result of the amendment of the indictment.

For those and other reasons the court dismissed Frost's appeal against conviction, and for reasons given, dismissed the other appeals against conviction.

Solicitors CPS, Essex.

Nash and Others v Eli Lilly and Co and OthersBefore Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Mann
Judgment August 28

The original order for costs, providing contribution between plaintiffs, was not specifically directed to orders for costs in favour of plaintiffs. It was contemplated that the court would retain its ordinary unfettered discretion as to such costs in the application of which the fact that the order was made in proceedings within a group action, in which there was an effective contribution, order otherwise, the party who caused costs to be incurred on a separately disputed issue would, if he lost, be ordered to pay the costs of the other side on its behalf.

The court saw no reason to doubt that it was intended that limitation could be raised in lead cases for the obtaining of decisions which would enable the parties to dispose of the whole of the group, one way or the other, so far as concerned limitation, but there was nothing to show that the discretion of the court, dealing with such issues, should be limited in any way as to costs.

There was no reason why it should be. If a case was put forward as a lead action for that

purpose and accepted as such, no reason had been put forward as to why the defendant should not be subjected to the ordinary discipline of costs orders; if they contested a lead case which succeeded, they should, unless there was reason to order otherwise, pay the costs of contesting the issue.

Since Mr Justice Hidden had been able to understand, why certain plaintiffs were selected as lead cases regarded as typical of various sub-groups which comprised the remaining cases, an interlocutory order giving directions that any costs which were ordered to be paid by, or which fell to be borne by any plaintiff, should be paid proportionately by each of the plaintiffs, so that each plaintiff should bear an equal part, did not justly an order by the trial judge restricting a successful plaintiff to a small proportion instead of the whole of its costs.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by Mr Timothy Edward Cockburn against an order made by Mr Justice Hidden on April 12, 1991, awarding him £1336th of his costs in a successful action against the defendants arising out of the effects of taking the prescribed drug Opan.

Mr Daniel Brennan, QC, Mr Augustus Ullstein, QC and Miss Selina Parkes for Mr Cockburn; Mr Jonathan Playford, QC, Mr Andrew Pryme and Mr Charles A. W. Gibson for Eli Lilly and Co.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS, giving the judgment of the court, said that Mr Cockburn was the only sole defendant to succeed. The order giving directions had been made by Mr Justice Hirst on March 29, 1988 in a case brought by Mr Cockburn against the defendants and, as far as concerned the claimants, was directed to the claimants.

It should be stressed, however, that having taken the above considerations into account, sentencing had, of course, to exercise their individual judgment as to the appropriate sentence to be passed and nothing in the practice statement was intended to restrict that independence.

5 For determinate sentences of four years or longer the secretary of state would have a continuing but reduced element of discretion on release. Prisoners would be released on licence after serving two thirds of the sentence.

If between his release and the end of the period covered by the original sentence, he committed any offence punishable by imprisonment, he would be liable to serve the balance of the original sentence outstanding at the date of the fresh offence.

4 Where the sentence of the court was less than four years, the secretary of state would under a duty to release the prisoner after he had served one half of his sentence. Thus, where the sentence was three years, eighteen months would be served.

That was significantly longer than would normally have been served before the new provisions came into force. Furthermore, on release the prisoner would be subject to a continuing suspended sentence.

If between his release and the end of the period covered by the original sentence, he committed any offence punishable by imprisonment, he would be liable to serve the balance of the original sentence outstanding at the date of the fresh offence.

3 Accordingly, from October 1, 1992, it would be necessary, when passing a custodial sentence in the crown court to have regard to the actual period likely to be served, and, as far as practicable, to the

principle of sentencing policy until now that the court should decide the appropriate sentence in each case without reference to questions of remission or parole.

8 The Lord Justices presiding in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) had been consulted and it had been decided that a new approach was essential.

11 It should be stressed, however, that having taken the above considerations into account, sentencing had, of course, to exercise their individual judgment as to the appropriate sentence to be passed and nothing in the practice statement was intended to restrict that independence.

10 Existing guideline judgments should be applied with those considerations in mind.

12 It should not of course deal with, as such, whether an order for costs should be made *inter partes* and, if so, what that order ought to be. Its significance for the present issue was that the costs to be borne by the plaintiffs should be distributed among them, including those receiving legal aid, so that "each such plaintiff shall bear any equal part thereof".

On April 12, 1991 Mr Justice Hidden ordered as follows: "The order I shall make in relation to costs is an order ... in favour of each defendant against each unsuccessful plaintiff, limited to a proportion of 1/338th of the total costs ... In relation to the plaintiff Mr Cockburn I shall make an order for costs ... against each defendant ... again as to a proportion of 1/338th of that figure." It was agreed that the proper fraction should have been 1/337th.

It was clear to their Lordships that the order made was unjust in its effect and could not be justified by reference to any relevant principle which could be derived from the existence of the source material.

The court always read all the source material and it was open to counsel, when addressing the court, to draw the court's attention to any matter which might be of particular relevance.

6 The summary was provided only so that counsel would know what material the court had before it.

The contents of the summary were a matter for the professional judgment of the summary writer but counsel who wished to suggest significant alterations should write to the Registrar of Criminal Appeals.

If the Registrar did not agree with the suggested changes then the letter would be put before the court with the summary. The court would not generally be willing to hear oral argument on the content of Criminal Appeal Office summaries.

7 Counsel could show the summary to the professional or lay client (but to no one else) if he or she believed that it would assist in checking facts or formulating arguments but summaries were not to be copied or reproduced without the permission of the Criminal Appeal Office, and permission would not normally be given in cases involving children or sexual offences, or where the crown court had made an order restricting reporting.

Those summaries were entirely objective and did not contain any form of advice as to how the court should deal with a case, or any views on the merits of a case. The facts of the case, as outlined in the summary, were drawn entirely from material already available to counsel in its work.

2 The summaries as they were prepared at present were not suitable for disclosure in their entirety to all counsel in a case. That was because they included material which was specific to individual appellants and confidential as between appellants and the court, which co-appellants, or counsel for the

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5 The Criminal Appeal Office would continue to provide the court with material which could be disclosed to all parties, such as appendices, reports, and the grounds of appeal, but it should be understood that that material was usually very abbreviated and was solely to draw the court's attention to the existence of the source material.

The court always read all the source material and it was open to counsel, when addressing the court, to draw the court's attention to any matter which might be of particular relevance.

3 The summaries provided to counsel would, in general, consist of the following sections:

(i) The crown court proceedings, including representation.

(ii) Facts of the case, drawn from transcripts, counsel's advice and/or witness statements.

(iv) Submissions and rulings.

(v) Directions to the jury.

(vi) Details of the co-accused (if not given under (i)).

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BBC1

6.00 Ceefax (95804) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (27218755)
 9.05 Perfect Strangers: American comedy series (r) (1185397)
 9.30 Conservative Party Conference. Live coverage of the second day's proceedings from Brighton. Includes the debates on social security, education and trade and industry. The closing speech is given by Michael Heseltine, president of the Board of Trade (93649).
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (4791723) 10.05 Playdays. For children (r) (1222480) 10.25 Jamboree and the Jet Set Animation (r) (1512100).
 10.35 Conservative Party Conference. Further live coverage from Brighton, presented by Donald MacCormick, Vivian White and Huw Edwards. Includes News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2232399) 12.55 Regional News and weather (5397484).
 1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (41910)
 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (8019757) 1.50 Eldorado (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9362582).
 2.20 Going for Gold. General knowledge quiz presented by the omniscient Henry Kelly (r) (4776741).
 2.45 A Hotel Is Born: The Path to Perfect Service. A documentary following new recruits on a two month training course at the Hotel Okura Kobe (6703668) 3.10 Pot Black. Against-the-clock snooker tournament. The commentators are Ted Lowe and Eddie Charlton (s) (359120).
 3.50 Going Dutch's Euro Tour (s) (2105255) 3.55 Radio Roo. Episode 10. A 13-part comedy drama starring and written by Wayne Jackson (r) (6979262) 4.10 Potsworth & Co Animation (r) (1355484) 4.30 What's That Noise? The Tracy brothers visit musical Bath (s) (7621597).
 5.00 Newsround (6856546) 5.05 Orange Hill. Drama serial set in a secondary school (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4771465).
 5.35 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (936769). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster.
 6.00 Sixty O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (200).
 6.30 Regional News Magazines (552). Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Eldorado. (Ceefax) (s) (9620).
 7.30 Tomorrow's World. Includes news of NASA's multi-million dollar search for extra-terrestrial intelligence (736).
 8.00 Trainer. Drama series set in the world of horse racing. Starring David McCallum, Susannah York, Mark Greenstreet and Patrick Ryecart. (Ceefax) (s) (921378).
 8.50 Points of View with Anne Robinson (s) (80910).
 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (6216).



Helping Nigerian women in prison: Olga Heaven (9.30pm)

9.30 Inside Story: Mules. ● CHOICE: The mules of Olivia Lichtenstein's documentary are Nigerian women who smuggle drugs into Britain and are often caught doing it. They make up one in five of the women in British prisons. The film takes a sympathetic view of vulnerable people forced by poverty into a shamming trade. It is prostitution in another guise. The punishment can be harsh, with prison sentences of up to 12 years. Unlike British prisoners they have no family visits, no home leave and no chance of parole. On release they face immediate deportation and further sentences at home. The film is based on a number of case histories, related by the victims. The pattern is similar. The husband has left or died, there are children to bring up and the chance of quick money is irresistible. Meanwhile the real criminals, the drug barons, prove elusive. (Ceefax) (s) (454585).
 10.20 Sportsnight introduced by Desmond Lyman. Boxing: the Commonwealth featherweight title bout between Sunderland's Billy Hardy and Rick Rayner of Australia at the Crown Leisure Centre, Sunderland; Football: the latest Premier league news; Rugby Union: highlights of the game between a Wales XV and Italy in Cardiff; Golf: a preview of the World Match Play (371497).
 11.50 Weather (428858). Ends at 11.55
 2.15 BBC Select: Accountancy Television (848069) 3.15 TV Edits (722243). Ends at 4.00

BBC2

8.00 Breakfast News (4457113)
 8.15 Made By Hand. The skills used in the making of hand-rolled Dutch cigars (4447736) 8.30 A Summer Journey: The Severn. Angela Rippon continues her journey and visits the Wildlife Trust at Slimbridge and Berkeley Castle (r) (77113).
 9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes.
 2.00 News and weather (5121552) 2.05 You and Me (r) (3223571).
 2.15 Conservative Party Conference. Live coverage from Brighton. Includes the speeches by Kenneth Clarke on home affairs and the debates on social security and Northern Ireland. With News (Ceefax) and weather at 3.00 and 3.50 (84192129).
 5.30 Kiszko. A documentary about the new evidence that proved Stefan Kiszko innocent of murder (129).
 6.00 Star Trek. Classic science fiction adventures (r). (Ceefax) (826378).
 6.50 DEF II begins with Wayne's World. American comedy series. (Ceefax) (559200). Wales: The Shetland Sessions 7.00 Rough Guides to Careers. A look at job opportunities connected with the stage (1513865).
 7.40 The Shetland Sessions. The last in the series from the 1991 Shetland Folk Festival (s) (534129). Wales: 7.20-9.00 Rugby Union — Wales XV v Italy.
 8.10 Cuban Missile Crisis.
 ● CHOICE: A two-part special from the Timewatch stable reconstructs the most dangerous episode of the nuclear age. It has been told on television before, but uses the point of view of the United States. Tony Bennett's film aims to give a more rounded picture, particularly by making use of newly released Soviet material. Bennett's thesis is that the events of October 1962, when the world came to the brink of war, largely stemmed from United States policy towards Castro's Cuba. The Americans could not countenance a communist on their doorstep, and were determined to get rid of him. Hence the Bay of Pigs fiasco, which only succeeded in driving Castro into the arms of Nikita Khrushchev. The stationing of Soviet missiles on Cuban soil was a logical outcome. Part two will relate what happened next (918804) 9.00 M*A*S*H. A repeat of the first pilot episode (407842).



Haunted by his traumatic past: Anton Lesser, right (9.25pm)

9.25 Downtown Lagos.

● CHOICE: A three-part drama features Anton Lesser as Mungo Dawson, an introverted English solicitor haunted by an unhappy childhood. He gets the rotten jobs at work and leads a lonely bachelor existence away from it. In nightmares he relives the bullying of his white hunter father (Frederick Treves), who ran a farm in Kenya. Leigh Jackson's scenario follows a leisurely path, as if determined not to give away too much too soon. But the hints are that Mungo will be shaken out of his settled but humdrum way of life and forced to exercise the traumas of his past. The process is launched when instead of his usual shoplifting cases, he becomes involved in defending Nigerians accused of passing a forged cheque. Meanwhile he persuades an attractive barrister (Kitty Aldridge) to accompany him on a visit to his fearsome dad. (Ceefax) (s) (516281).
 10.25 Fifth Column. A personal view on a topical subject (673858).
 10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman (570200).
 11.15 The Late Show (s) (346945) 10.55 Weather (345571).
 12.00 Film: Rome, Open City (1946, b/w).
 ● CHOICE: Roberto Rossellini's portrait of the Italian capital during the latter part of the second world war did more than any other film to launch the movement known as neo-realism. The main elements are location shooting, the use of non-professional actors (alongside established players such as Anna Magnani and Aldo Fabrizi), grainy camerawork and a narrative that refuses to smooth out its rough edges. The story combines two factual elements, the murder of a priest by the Germans and the Resistance activities of Roman children. The film was completed with difficulty as money ran out and Rossellini was forced to sell his furniture and clothes. It remains a moving account of the experiences of ordinary people, treated with documentary fidelity but bringing out the humanity and simple heroism beneath the surface of events (264885). Ends at 14.55

ITV

6.00 TV-am (616326).
 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw. Celebrity game show hosted by Danny Baker (1175281) 9.35 Thames News (778257).
 10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical discussion series (8748397).
 10.40 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Today's edition includes consumer advice, family law and garden. Ashes talk about herbs. With national and international news at 10.25. Regional news at 11.35 followed by national news at (4655200).
 12.10 Allsorts. For children (r) (7236804).
 12.30 Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Rausler. (Orade) Weather (6927571) 1.05 Thamers News (7782584).
 1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama series. (Orade) (893632) 1.45 A Country Practice: Medical drama set in the Australian outback (243123).
 2.15 Gemini Kerr. The Antipodean cook prepares chicken pollo — boneless chicken breasts in sweet red peppers and Italian plum tomatoes with a white wine sauce (18084) 2.45 Take the High Road. Drama serial set in the Highlands (6798736).
 3.10 ITN News headlines (858073) 3.15 Thamers News headlines (8589642) 3.20 The Young Doctors. Drama serial set in an Australian city hospital (4189007).
 3.30 Biggs Bunny. Cartoon (2826139) 3.35 Rupert. Cartoon adventure of the hero Nutwood (621152) 4.00 Grotbags: starring Carol Vorderman (s) (292007) 4.40 Woot! The first of a new series of comedy about a boy who changes into a dog. (Orade) (s) (6997571).
 5.10 Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers (4765804) 6.00 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Orade) Weather (280620).
 6.55 Thamers Help (r) (605987).
 6.00 Home and Away (r). (Orade) (668).
 6.30 Thamers News (620).
 7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel surprises another unsuspecting worthy (s) (7216).
 7.30 Coronation Street. (Orade) (804).



Raising Cain: Michael guest for Des O'Connor (8.00pm)

9.30 Inside Story: Mules.
 ● CHOICE: The mules of Olivia Lichtenstein's documentary are Nigerian women who smuggle drugs into Britain and are often caught doing it. They make up one in five of the women in British prisons. The film takes a sympathetic view of vulnerable people forced by poverty into a shamming trade. It is prostitution in another guise. The punishment can be harsh, with prison sentences of up to 12 years. Unlike British prisoners they have no family visits, no home leave and no chance of parole. On release they face immediate deportation and further sentences at home. The film is based on a number of case histories, related by the victims. The pattern is similar. The husband has left or died, there are children to bring up and the chance of quick money is irresistible. Meanwhile the real criminals, the drug barons, prove elusive. (Ceefax) (s) (454585).
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SKY NEWS

SKY ONE
 ● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites
 News on the hour.
 6.00am Sunrise (1170991) 9.30 Our World (61455) 10.30 Fashion TV (282513) 11.30 International Business Report (11738) 12.30pm Good Morning America (39278) 1.00 Entertainment Tonight (11739) 1.30 Nightline (42587) 8.30 Our World (612129) 5.00 Love at First Sight (29197) 6.30 Nightline (54378) 7.30 Fashion TV (63378) 8.30 Fashion TV (12465) 10.30 Nightline (58649) 1.30 Nightline (12466) 12.30 Entertainment Tonight (42588) 1.30 ABC News (18240) 2.30 Our World (50576) 3.30 ABC News (55021) 4.30 Those Were the Days (13972) 5.30 5.30 ABC News (60359).
 SKY TWO
 ● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites
 6.00am Showcase (551234) 10.00 Oh, Heavenly Dog! (1980; Chevy Chase is reincarnated (24587) 12.00 No Means No (1988; Drama about
 SKY MOVIES+
 ● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites
 6.00pm Step Aerobics (2692397) 8.30 Some Things Are Out There: First of a two-part science fiction adventure starring Jon Cusack and Maryann D'Alba (65587) 10.00 Stargate (16126) 10.30 Star Trek: The Next Generation (80007) 1.30 Pages from Styx

television sexuality (27674) 8.00 Super Train (34858) 8.00 Muscle Night (35887) 9.00 Morning Stretch (45200) 9.30 German League Football (27620) 10.00 American Sports (53194) 1.00 Cuppa Tea (27620) 1.30 American Sports (53194) 1.00 The Footballer's Day (27620) 2.15 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.30 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.45 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.50 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.55 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.58 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.59 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.60 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.61 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.62 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.63 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.64 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.65 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.66 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.67 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.68 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.69 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.70 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.71 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.72 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.73 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.74 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.75 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.76 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.77 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.78 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.79 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.80 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.81 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.82 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.83 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.84 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.85 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.86 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.87 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.88 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.89 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.90 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.91 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.92 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.93 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.94 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.95 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.96 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.97 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.98 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.99 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.10 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.11 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.12 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.13 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.14 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.15 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.16 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.17 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.18 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.19 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.20 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.21 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.22 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.23 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.24 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.25 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.26 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.27 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.28 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.29 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.30 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.31 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.32 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.33 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.34 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.35 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.36 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.37 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.38 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.39 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.40 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.41 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.42 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.43 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.44 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.45 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.46 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.47 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.48 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.49 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.50 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.51 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.52 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.53 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.54 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.55 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.56 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.57 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.58 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.59 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.60 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.61 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.62 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.63 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.64 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.65 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.66 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.67 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.68 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.69 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.70 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.71 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.72 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.73 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.74 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.75 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.76 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.77 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.78 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.79 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.80 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.81 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.82 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.83 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.84 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.85 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.86 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.87 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.88 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.89 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.90 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.91 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.92 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.93 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.94 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.95 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.96 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.97 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.98 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.99 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.10 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.11 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.12 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.13 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.14 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.15 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.16 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.17 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.18 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.19 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.20 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.21 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.22 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.23 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.24 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.25 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.26 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.27 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.28 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.29 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.30 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.31 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.32 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.33 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.34 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.35 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.36 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.37 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.38 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.39 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.40 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.41 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.42 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.43 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.44 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.45 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.46 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.47 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.48 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.49 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.50 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.51 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.52 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.53 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.54 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.55 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.56 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.57 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.58 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.59 Cuppa Tea (27620) 2.60 Cuppa Tea (2762